

Q10

Thanksgiving is so close to the end of the semester that it seems unnecessary to have a full week off that late.

My family is off all week for Thanksgiving. Getting rid of fall break, which staff don't get off anyway, and taking off the entire week of Thanksgiving would be a major improvement! Please do it!!

Starting on Mondays of the semester just makes sense. And again, those of us with families would appreciate being on a regular schedule.

My kids attend a private school which starts on Wednesday. This would hurt my ability to teach if I started classes before them.

I usually assign online activities for classes M/W of Thanksgiving week anyway because my kids are out of school all week that week

I feel that Fall Break is really needed as a "reboot" for students during the semester. However, they are typically assigned more work over break, so it would probably be fine eliminating this.

Starting on Thursday is the best way to go.

Keep Fall Break!!! I truly used to not care for it, thinking that plowing ahead to get done two days earlier in November/December was worth it. Not anymore! I truly LIVE for Fall Break; for goodness sake we need to pause and take a breather.

Keep, keep, keep Fall Break.

As for Thanksgiving...a whole week off? No.  
Thanks for asking for input.

I like the Thursday start, as it provides a partial week for departmental and college meetings while under contract, affords those with children in local schools to have a few days without the kids in order to make final preparations for courses, and generally allows faculty to introduce their classes with a weekend immediately following. I think an entire week of welcome activities is too long and would raise problems of housing and law enforcement (a week on campus without classes seems like trouble waiting to happen). I think Fall break is fine where it is, and Thanksgiving is far too late in the semester (the final week between thanksgiving and finals is very difficult to use effectively), but there's nothing to be done about that.

Many faculty and staff have children in the public school system, which get out a full week for Thanksgiving. I have to send my three children to a paid babysitter on the first two days they are out for Thanksgiving, as I am not out. Additionally they are not out on Fall Break, so although I don't work, my children still have to go to school, so I'm okay with giving up Fall Break to make a full week of Thanksgiving possible.

Because we allow 3 days for add drop - students who add a science class that has a lab during the first days might miss the all important first lab if we start on a Monday. This would set them up to fail, not something we want to happen.

How does this affect 12-month employees who have to use vacation/comp time? Would we be able to earn comp time if we worked these days?

It would be important not to extend the end of the fall term into December as administrative offices need to process grades and send letters prior to leaving for December break.

In addition, it would be nice if fall break was eliminated and Thanksgiving break was extended if the campus could close or at least be closed the day before Thanksgiving.

If fall break is not eliminated, it would be nice if staff could also be off the two days of fall break.

All campus offices (including the library) should be closed for the whole week of Thanksgiving if it is extended and Fall Break is discontinued.

I like both proposals. I am OK with the current schedule, but I think both proposals would be interesting to implement. If, after a trial period, the changes have negative issues, then reserve the right to change it back.

It's about time that we extend the Thanksgiving Break so that people will have time to go home to their families. We don't need a Fall Break--the 2 days aren't enough time off to unwind. But a week off would be highly beneficial. We've needed to do this for years!

The end of the semester/winter break comes very soon after Thanksgiving break. I think it would be helpful to extend Thanksgiving break so that I, and other out of state students and staff, would be able to travel home for the holiday without feeling rushed. However, with Thanksgiving break being so close to winter break, i feel as though fall break should still remain. from the beginning of the semester to fall break is about 14 weeks. As someone who has to travel out of state to get home, weekend trips are impossible unless there are extended weekends, such as fall break. Fall break is placed at a good time in the semester where it's not too early in the semester, and it's not too close to Thanksgiving break. The two makeup days would be better suited to be added to the beginning of the semester. This would result in a Tuesday start rather than a Monday Start. I think a full week of classes as the first week of school is asking too much of a student trying to get readjusted into the school year.

We should look at starting the spring semester on the day after MLK day. The semester would have to end later and that would get graduation off of Toad Suck Dae weekend.

Having both a fall and Thanksgiving break was beneficial during my undergraduate studies. Starting classes on a Thursday rather than a Monday eased my transition into the school year. I recommend UCA continues to schedule a fall break and start class on Thursday.

I think that eliminating Fall Break will be very beneficial for students, as well as faculty/staff. It is harder for students to focus the first two days during the week of Thanksgiving, knowing that the

holiday is approaching. Eliminating Fall Break and extending Thanksgiving break would be beneficial for everyone, and students will probably be much more productive because of it.

We should not be starting around August 15 and ending some early in December,

I like multiple smaller breaks in the semester. Starting on Thursday isn't a big deal for me. It gives students time to sort out their schedule since they are allowed to add up until that Wednesday. I like having that first 2 days of the semester to get to know my students and not feel rushed into the semester coursework. If it were changed to a Monday, I wouldn't mind either--just adjust.

I do like fall break and then having Wed-Fri for Thanksgiving. It gives me a bit of a re-group days to come to campus and work even though we're "off"

This is very complicated and wordy survey. Starting the class schedule on Monday would be useless and make it very hectic on students who have to move in and immediately turn around to start class. They need time to be able to get used to being on campus, buy books, and do any other business otherwise missed. It is terrible for international students and any from out of state.

Thanksgiving break/fall break issue should be viewed from a student centered standpoint and not based on our own preference or personal schedule. Is it a benefit or detriment to allow students to take a break from classes? Would it be a benefit or detriment for them to only get a partial week for Thanksgiving? (Especially with finals and the end of the semester immediately following)

I'm in favor of having a full week at Thanksgiving as long as it's granted to staff along with the faculty and students.

It is important for faculty members with children that the fall semester NOT begin before the local public schools start the school year, but it is not important for those two to begin on the same day. As long as the public schools start before the UCA fall semester, the scheduling works for faculty members.

Fall break is always a welcome relief. Not having any break in the schedule between Labor Day and Thanksgiving would be exhausting.

My larger concern is that the short week after Thanksgiving already seems wasted. Having a full week off prior to would make it even more-so.

As a department chair, I think that should this change go into effect that FS should revisit how 12 month (faculty appointment) employees are treated during spring break (and then Thanksgiving break). NO ONE comes in to need assistance during these windows. Although we accrue vacation, it seems that like the holiday when the campus is closed, that these faculty members should be allowed to be away as well without having to take vacation. Since we are technically not allowed to accrue comp time, there is no other way to take off during this time except to take vacation days.

The benefit should go to the student's welfare. Would a week off so close to Finals be beneficial or not? How important is Fall Break? As a staff member, I would like what's best for the students. The changes make no difference to me personally.

As much as I understand that two additional days need to be added to the calendar, I am not so sure that eliminating Fall Break is the answer. I have recently transitioned from teaching mainly sophomores to juniors and seniors. The small break in the fall is much needed to catch up and refocus for the rest of the semester. This is a difficult decision either way. Often times, I would come up with a good online assignment to give my students flexibility during the week of Thanksgiving (for travel, etc). Has other university schedules been examined? My daughter is a high school junior and we have been looking at a variety of options for college. I always look at the academic calendar to see how fall break and/or Thanksgiving are scheduled. I am appreciative of the consideration. Faculty who have children in public schools benefit from the Thursday start date. Because our kids start school on a Monday - we then have three days to prepare for UCA classes starting on Thursday. It would be very stressful if UCA started classes on Monday and faculty had to not only get their kids ready for the first day of school, but also get ready to start classes.

Regarding Fall Break and Thanksgiving Break - I don't really care what you do with these. Many students and faculty take a week off anyway at Thanksgiving. What I think is the bigger issue is that after Thanksgiving we only have 4 days of school. We either need to finish classes before Thanksgiving and just have exams the week after. Or we should have two weeks of classes after Thanksgiving. The two days of class after Thanksgiving is not very useful.

I would be in favor of starting classes a week later in August and going two weeks after Thanksgiving – we would still finish classes and exams before or at the same time Conway Public Schools get out.

My concern regarding moving the first day of classes from Thursday to Monday is the impact it will have on families and Welcome Week. The current schedule allows for families to move in their students on a Sunday and Welcome Week to run through Wednesday. If the first day of classes is a Monday, it will be hard for working families to move in their students during the week. The four days of Welcome Week (Sunday-Wednesday) are important to acclimating students to UCA. For many of these students, UCA is larger than their hometown. We need to ensure that they meet other students, get involved and start off on the right foot so we can retain them.

As far as Thanksgiving, I think removing Fall Break and increasing the Thanksgiving Break to a week. Many schools already do this. We just need to make sure that there are opportunities for comp time for staff to use during this break. Currently, staff only get Thursday and Friday. If they take off additional time, they must use leave time. I don't want to see staff penalized for the sake of faculty and students. It takes all of us to make up the university community.

One full week for Thanksgiving will undermine instruction at a pivotal period in the semester. Imagine a full week off, then a week of class, THEN FINALS.

We got to this pressure for Wed and now maybe also Mon and Tue off of Thanksgiving week because of a slow push by students (who make other plans) because their faculty do not take these two days of Thanksgiving week seriously. Students in our classes (chemistry) expect Tue/Mon to be blow off days because that is what they are in other departments. A full week off for Thanksgiving will have its own slow creep; Fri before off because of travel plans, then the Mon after, etc. And all this one week before

finals. Don't do it.

I think for the welcome week activities for freshman that class needs to start on Thursday like it has. I would also say we need to take a strong look at taking away fall break from the students. They are the reason we are here. I know for some families they enjoy a nice break to see their child in the middle of the long semester.

Eliminating fall break, in my opinion, would have a negative impact on student wellbeing. It gives students and faculty an opportunity to take a mental break & rejuvenate to start back to the 2nd half of the semester. I am for changing the semester start day to a Monday. It will make the drop/add period not feel as long as they only will have Monday-Friday (4 days) versus Thursday-Wednesday (6days) to make schedule changes.

Starting classes on a Thursday is always a little weird, but I do like getting to work on syllabi and attend faculty meetings earlier in the same week that classes start. We'd have to have all those meetings during the previous week if classes began on a Monday. For faculty, work on the semester's classes already starts at the beginning of the week (much earlier than that, actually, of course, because of all the work and planning involved in course prep--but here I mean just syllabi finalization, printing, etc.) because of the work we need to complete in preparation for the first day of class. However, if we started classes three days early, cut fall break, and left Thanksgiving break as it is, I would be really glad to end the fall semester one week earlier in December. Winter break is not quite long enough to visit family for the holidays and finish all the research and spring course prep that I need to complete during that time--an extra week would be really helpful.

It is difficult to get students back on track after thanksgiving break since there is only one week of classes after that. That is even more difficult when students have a full week away from classes. Also, fall break is super important for allowing students time for self-care and to recharge, particularly since UCA students often hold part- and full-time jobs. That break was crucial for lifting my students' spirits for the rest of the semester.

I simply prefer the current arrangement. There is logic to a Thursday/Friday prelude before the semester's work really begins. Among other things, it gives students a few more days to buy their books (a growing issue).

Second, the haul to Thanksgiving is just too long without a fall break. And a week-long Thanksgiving break shortly before finals would disrupt the work rhythm at semester's end too much. Thanksgiving falls at the end of the semester, and students usually need those days to accomplish end-of-semester work.

I believe students should be registered by the 1st day of classes. NO late registration. Students attending classes until mid-semester and then administratively dropped and then added back is difficult at best.

I do not want to see an end to the fall break. It serves the same purpose as the spring break - to give faculty and students a bit of respite during the semester. I am absolutely opposed to extending the Thanksgiving break. To do so means having a long break at the END of the semester - this makes no sense. It would be impossible for me to cover my material adequately, and frankly, after such a long break the students are basically counting down to the end of the semester. NO EXTENSION of the Thanksgiving holiday.

First of all, classes for as far back as I can remember have always begun on Thursday. Why change it – it isn't broke! Plus we are busy enough without more major updating/upgrading files/documents. We are a University for Heaven sake! We should not be equal to elementary schools. Secondly, leave fall break as is. Thanksgiving break does not need to be a full week. After all, in two weeks the semester is over.

I teach hybrid classes and moving the first day of school to a Monday would help my schedule tremendously. As a former student, I have experienced the benefits of starting classes on a Thursday. Having classes Thursday and Friday on the "first week" allow you to attend all of your courses, for the most part, and gives you the weekend to gather materials needed to begin the course on Monday. They are similar to prep days. These two prep days prevent you from losing an entire week as you would if your first day was on a Monday.

It also gives students time to get those first parties out of the way and jump right into school rather than starting on a Monday and all week they're looking forward to the first weekend shenanigans. Starting on Thursday allows the "Syllabus Day" to occur on Thursday and Friday so that instruction can begin in earnest on Monday. Starting on Monday just extends the "syllabus day" activities and wastes instructional time.

The questions about moving from Thursday to Monday were hard to answer due to childcare. Would this be the Monday prior to our typical start or the Monday after? I would not be for the Monday prior as that could create more childcare issues, but the Monday after would likely mean that all schools are in session and that would be more convenient. I also did not know how a Monday start would impact when school ended.

I would really like to see us have breaks and develop a class time schedule that was more beneficial for learning. We cram so much in week after week and then take a break to rush to the finish. I would like to see more study days built into the semester (one long weekend each month) or longer class periods (or even the elimination of Friday classes) to foster a learning environment instead of an environment of busy. Removing the already short Fall Break would mean that Fall semesters would run without a break for nearly the entire term; generally only two weeks remain after Thanksgiving and one of those is Exam Week. That is far too long for students or faculty to remain fresh. I'm OK with moving to a Monday start but not if it means we would go 13 weeks straight with no break.

For classes with multiple sections with labs on different days of the week, we lose full weeks when there are partial week holidays. We have to cancel a week's worth of labs to keep all the sections on the same schedule overall. If Thanksgiving were extended to a week, and Fall Break was eliminated, it would give us back a week for labs that we otherwise lose.

why don't the staff get a fall break

This seems to be another solution in search of a problem, courtesy of our friends in Wingo Hall.

Starting the fall semester on a Thursday enables faculty to have a few days to attend meetings and prepare for the start of classes. If the fall 2016 semester had started on Monday, August 15, faculty would have started classes on the first day of the contract period. Thus, any time spent preparing for the beginning of the semester would have been uncompensated. If the start day is adjusted, faculty salaries should be increased accordingly. An additional week of salary would be appropriate.

Eliminating fall break would make the fall semester much more difficult. Fall Break provides much needed time for faculty and students to catch up. Not having such a break in the spring semester makes it much more difficult.

Keep fall calendar as is

I would like a week for Thanksgiving, still keep a fall break and may be start earlier to have the right numbers of day.

I believe missing a full week right before the last few days of the term is a negative.

I believe that moving the start date to a Monday will benefit departments that offer labs as part of the curriculum and I would support this change.

I do not agree with eliminating fall break because that time offers an opportunity for both faculty and students to reset after midterm grades are submitted and to evaluate the rest of the semester.

I am neutral regarding the extension of Thanksgiving break, however, I believe this could couple well with starting on a Monday vs Thursday to account for the additional days needed (rather than eliminating fall break).

Quit changing things

Give staff the Thanksgiving week off too!

As a faculty who teaches on T/Th, I somewhat like that classes start on Thursday because the first day of class is such a waste anyway, it is somewhat nice to get the first day done and then have a weekend to actually get ready to start. Moving the first day to Monday/Tuesday will basically cause the whole week to be a waste because students will still not have their materials and be ready to go on Thursday.

As for Fall Break, it is absolutely ridiculous to have two days off in October and then two in November. Again, it basically causes a waste of both weeks. I cancelled my Tuesday class the week of Thanksgiving anyway because I knew no one would come. I strongly support the elimination of Fall Break regardless

of what happens with Thanksgiving.

I think fall Break really gives the students a time to unwind, and I don't think that should be taken away.

I need frequent breaks to not kill myself

Extend thanksgiving break, but don't take away fall break. I don't think changing the first day of class to a Monday will provide a positive change. It should stay on Thursday.

As long as the semester is not shortened in terms of contact hours with students, I am not concerned with whether or not these changes take place.

Leave things as they are.

Having a Thursday start allows for a weekend move-in day, which is more conducive to work families' schedules. A full week at Thanksgiving followed by a week of classes, then semester exam week seems unnecessary.

Fall break should not be eliminated if we started the semester on a Monday instead of Thursday there are your two "make up days" for making Thanksgiving break a week long and still being able to keep fall break!! Seriously? With salary compression, a history of felon-administrators, and the widespread arbitrary application of university policies we're concerned about starting classes on a Monday? Surely the Faculty Senate can come up with more pressing issues than this, yes?

I love my fall break and can deal with not getting a full week off for thanksgiving if it means I get to keep my fall break

I think that the current scheduling works well for most students and should remain the same.

The Fall Break is a brief reprieve that I think should continue. Starting classes on a Monday instead of Thursday, I am overall neutral about.

Personally, I like the UCA schedule very much. It works very well with my schedule for other events. A whole week for Thanksgiving would be nice, but I DO NOT want to sacrifice Fall Break for a whole week at Thanksgiving.

I think that we need to have a full week for Thanksgiving especially since some people live far away and it is difficult for them to get home the day before Thanksgiving. I think that we need fall break still. I would much rather have 2 days added on at the end and keep both.

It'd be best if these things didn't change.



I enjoy having both breaks, however having a longer thanksgiving break would be much more convenient, especially since the rest of my family is off for the entire week, we are limited to my schedule, which is somewhat frustrating.

I need fall break. Keep fall break

We need a longer thanksgiving break. As We don't need school on Thursday

I think having fall break in October plus two days for Thanksgiving in November gives students two breaks to catch up on work, visit family and recreate more than one long week for Thanksgiving. Sometimes the fall break is the only chance the physical plant has to do special projects.

Of the other universities I have attended UCA is the only one that has a fall break. I think that having fall break and having Thanksgiving break disrupts the flow for me as a student. Going from a steady rythum of lectures and homework, to none, to finding the rythum again, to none is tyrsome. PLEASE DO NOT MOVE THE FIRST DAY OF CLASSES FROM A THURSDAY TO A MONDAY!

I like having a couple days to get settled in and catch up with my friends before classes start. It also helped as a freshman to get used to being here and away from home. This is an extremely poorly worded survey. Consider revising. The wording here is very skewed toward certain responses.

Student retention and academic performance, in general, is going to take a hit if we do a full week for Thanksgiving. Consider moving Fall Break to a Monday-Tuesday.

I think it would be helpful to start on the Monday FOLLOWING the Thursday we typically begin classes. Giving faculty a full week to prepare.

I would love a week-long Thanksgiving break, but I think fall break is a great motivator for many students (kind of like a small milestone for the semester). If we need to add two days, adding two days to the beginning or end of the semester would be preferable.

Fall break is great, please don't eliminate this to allow a full week on thanksgiving. I would rather go longer into December than lose fall break.

It would be difficult for those who have children in the public schools to get themselves ready to teach on the same day that their children have their first day of school. Plus, it's convenient to have the Thursday and Friday to go over the syllabus and do ice breakers and then get started on class material/lessons the following week.

I don't mind having fall break and thanksgiving break not being a full week. Fall break gives you time to get caught up on all your writing assignments, and makes it so you don't spend your whole thanksgiving break doing homework, because everything is normally due when you get back from thanksgiving, not to mention you have to study for finals during that time, plus you are expected to be at family functions for Thanksgiving, which takes away from study/homework time.

Please DO NOT get rid of fall break! By that point in the semester, students and faculty are both exhausted and really need that break, in my very strong opinion.

I also think having both fall break and Thanksgiving break gives students and faculty who are from further away a better opportunity to connect with family who live far away multiple times during the semester -- and I feel very strongly that this is very important.

Fall breaks do not coincide with most family/friend schedules. Additional time during the week of Thanksgiving is more aligned with those schedules, as many request off or also have additional days off. I think these are great questions to bring up to students and faculty! I really would love to have a full week of thanksgiving to visit all of my family, like most elementary, middle, and high schools.

Please don't make me start school on a Monday. I will die. Also I need my breaks. I'd rather go longer into December than not get a breather half way into the semester.

I believe that fall break is important, because it gives us that time near the middle of the semester to reassess and get things done, especially for the first semester freshmen who are overwhelmed and may want to go home. I am also strongly opposed to moving the first day of classes to a Monday, and the reason that I took this survey is to vote against that. It takes away from the campus culture of UCA, where students slowly get adjusted to classes rather than just being thrown back in when they're really not ready. It also allows for students to socialize when they come back to UCA without it affecting their grades yet.

Starting classes on a thursday helps me get my books after knowing if I really need them and before real classes start.

Changing this is idiotic.

Having fall break is essential for students because it allows us to de stress from school. It's an opportunity for us to catch up on sleep and have time for our families before going back into the crazy schedule. It would be nice to have an entire week for Thanksgiving however, I think college students would rather have a fall break to look forward to.

If classes were to start on a Monday, the university could add an extra 3 days to the calendar. This would allow for an extra two days for Thanksgiving break and could also add an extra day to another break such as fall break. Time off from going to class every day really helps students to not just quit going and drop out from all of the continuous stress. Breaks help to split everything up. Start the semester 3 days early so it's on a Monday AND add 2 days to Thanksgiving break.

Adding two days at the end of the semester and having a week for thanksgiving break could positively impact student mental health, as well as give non traditional students and students who work retail jobs to spend more time with their families.

I do agree that starting on a monday would be more advantageous but leave the Fall break and Thanksgiving the way they are. If we need the two days then keep the Thursday start date but the faculty needs a break come october and waiting until Thanksgiving break when school is out after the very next week is not a strong choice.

I think the breaks (Thanksgiving Holiday and Fall break) are a welcome break that everyone looks forward to for a "breather" throughout the semester. Therefore I feel that it should stay the way it is now. I also like the semester beginning on a Thursday. This gives students and F/S two days to get all of the paperwork and beginning "to-dos" out of the way and gives them the opportunity to review the syllabus and students the opportunity to get books and get settled in for the semester to begin.

I think that Monday start would be extremely beneficial to incoming students, only IF this means that they would have a full week of orientation. If we cut orientation week, this would have a negative impact.

I believe that Fall Break and Thanksgiving Break are very important to a student. I feel like knowing you have a break in October after or before midterms is a very much needed break or study time. I feel like extended Thanksgiving break would be good for those who are home sick, or haven't seen their families since the semester began. Starting classes on a Thursday was great, mainly for freshman, because it gives them a glimpse of what it going to be like, without have a total load on them the first week of classes.

Many students take the entire week for Fall break as well as the entire week for Thanksgiving. This makes it difficult for faculty because you feel you should "re-teach" material due to extremely high number of absences. I say eliminating Fall break and extending Thanksgiving would be more efficient for traveling as well.

I feel that Fall Break is necessary to students' mental health. I like the academic calendar as it is now, other than the fact that we start classes on a Thursday. I think that we should start classes on a Monday, because I would be more motivated that first week of class.

Why can't we just take 2 days off of winter break? We have a full month and then some off. I think we can spare 2 of those days and keep fall break and have a full week for Thanksgiving and I think people would be happier.

Regarding Thanksgiving week, we either need to enforce class meetings on Monday and Tuesday or eliminate them. To put them on the calendar and then have half or more of faculty cancel classes hurts everyone who follows the rules.

Students in research classes use fall break to complete work in archives, the field, etc. that they cannot do while classes are in session. I oppose eliminating fall break on those grounds. And Thanksgiving is a long time away for students and faculty to clear their heads for a few days. Finally, UCA in essence does start on Monday; we move first-year students into dorms and orient them, etc. We use Thursday and Friday to introduce classes. Pushing those things closer together will hurt our students.

Thank you for running this survey.

We literally would have no break until thanksgiving break. Most students need that break to go home and see their families and get a break from the hectic mess of UCA. Teachers also need this break to get caught up as well. Overall I think it's horrible idea to not give your students a break until the end of the semester.

I believe it is a great relief in the semester when students have fall break. It gives students a good breather

before/after mid-terms, depending on where fall break falls in the Fall semester.

UCA has one of the better schedules in the State. Starting classes on the same day as the local high school/elementary would be a working mothers nightmare. Having it separate also helps with traffic.

I'm indifferent about the Fall Break/ Thanksgiving Break argument. Both have their pros/cons.

I can't see people being mad with having a full week off. Students already skip out on a lot of their classes the week of Thanksgiving because they are trying to get home to family.

I think the 1st day of classes should be on Thursday. It helps freshman settle down and get ready for the semester ahead. And fall break gives us a break that is needed

I believe fall break should be taken out and those 2 days be added to Thanksgiving break.

I'm not sure how valuable this survey is when no rationale is given for why we are thinking about making these changes.

I feel very strongly that the scheduling should remain as is. Having two breaks is more beneficial for stress relief than having one long break, and starting on Thursdays allows students to get started in classes before things get too busy.

I enjoy starting semester on Thursday so you can get familiar with classes, and then start fresh the next week.

Do not eliminate fall break! It is important to give students some time to compose themselves after midterms. As a senior here at UCA I strongly believe fall break is a crucial part of a students success for the second half of the semester.

I think starting the semester on a Thursday is a really good thing because students are able to have one day in each class, for most classes, and then a weekend break before really jumping into the curriculum.

I see no advantage to starting the semester on a Monday. I feel very strongly about keeping the fall break. Students need a break after mid term exams "to recharge their batteries." I worked at UCa when there was no fall break and it was very hard trying to make it to Thanksgiving. We need the two days in October not at the end of November when the semester is almost over anyway. Just leave the semesters as they are!!!!

I don't think eliminating fall break is a good idea. For students who live out of state fall break is really the first opportunity they have to go home and if they get rid of it, they won't be able to go home until thanksgiving

I like having fall break, but having to go to class for one day of a week is lame.

Just add two days to the semester and keep fall break. Thanksgiving needs to be all week

I prefer starting on Thursday...

Thanksgiving break to a full week - horrible idea. It is too close to the end of the semester. Might as well call it the end since it would kill any momentum left in the students and faculty to do well with final projects. Couldn't imagine coming back to school after off that much time knowing that in a week or two we would go into winter break.

Removing Fall break - even worse idea than extending Thanksgiving. I NEED the fall break. Sometimes I use it to catch up in my courses, but I mostly use it to get a break from the stresses of teaching and service work. I've been at a campus without a fall break and I remember how both students and faculty would talk about the stress and just being tired around mid-term and that in the spring we get a mid-semester break, but not in the fall. Then, I went to a campus with a fall break (called October Break there) and it was a revelation. The fall break recharges me and my family. Losing it would be yet another reason why it can suck working at UCA.

Instructors of lab courses have been dealing with weeks without labs for decades, why does this keep coming up? We should consider getting rid of "Study Day." That would give the lab courses an extra week and study day is just dumb anyway.

I think the schedule is great how it is without any changes. By starting classes on Thursday instead of Monday, it allows for a nice transition from summer break to attending class without advising too much of a workload on the first week, since most professors go over the syllabus and schedule for the year. I have found it beneficial to only go to class two days before having a weekend break. I do not think it is necessary to take away fall break to add it to thanksgiving break. Even though it would allow for a longer break at Thanksgiving, fall break is a nice break around midterms that I have found very beneficial stress wise in my college career. In conclusion, I do not think that a change in the schedule is necessary or beneficial

The wording of this survey is very confusing and is skewed for certain responses.

Don't eliminate fall break!!!! Labor Day break to thanksgiving is 2.5 months without any days off, except weekends. Some of us live far away, and can't make a weekend trip, but can for longer breaks.

I think Fall Break is very much needed for students to have a chance to go home and talk to their parents. Fall Break is positioned at a crucial time when students are starting to feel bogged down by school and need that break.

Nice to start on a Thursday so students meet once for TR & MWF classes before having a weekend to get ready to go "full speed".

Students need a break in October which is closer to the halfway part of the semester.

Although it would be nice for students who need to travel distances for Thanksgiving, a whole week off for Thanksgiving is too close to the end of the fall semester, especially if it means taking away fall break. This was my first semester at UCA, but as a junior my first experience of a fall break. Having a fall break saved me and was exactaly what I needed when it was given. It was in the middle of the semester, and at my past school I would die off and stop going to classes, because I didn't get a break and students

who were transfers with me that I still have classes with agree. So fall break is a blessing in disguise for a lot of students.

Having breaks throughout the semester is extremely important to me. Fall break helps me relax a little bit from the stress of classes and eliminating Fall Break would not give students a break from classes and can result in burnout for students. Having a full week for Thanksgiving would be nice but I don't think it is completely necessary. I also don't think it really matters what day of the week classes start on.

Students NEED fall break. Physically and mentally we get worn out from the repetition of the semester's routine and need the break. It is perfectly timed. Please keep it!!

I think we should have a fall break. It gives students the time to refresh their minds so they can return for their second half of the semester and finish strong!!! If these changes come through I think it will negatively impact students' educations and grades!

Thank you for asking the opinions of the people who will be most affected by those changes. A little top-down consideration is refreshing.

Beginning classes on Thursday is a nice introduction to the semester. It is a short week, followed by a break before starting in to a full schedule. Students often use the weekend to purchase their books and to begin reading. Admins are overwhelmed the first two days of classes, having a weekend after these two days is a relief.

Staff does not receive fall break and would not receive a week-long Thanksgiving break, so I prefer the two short breaks with quiet offices.

As a student, these are my views on these two issues:

First, starting school on a Thursday is a good thing for us because it allows us to get a feel for classes before we are thrown into the classes full force.

Second, I STRONGLY disagree with taking away fall break. As college students, fall break is an opportunity for us to get a short break from classes. Having two short breaks (fall break and thanksgiving) is a great way to break the semester up so that our work load is divided up. Thank you!

The two breaks are beneficial to student learning in the fall semester.

I think that starting on a Thursday is a good adjustment, I've always loved that about UCA. It helps you to see how your new classes will be, but then having a weekend so the first week of classes isn't too overwhelming.

I'm indifferent about eliminating fall break. I think it's a good time just to have another break to go home and see family and friends. Thanksgiving break is already short and most schools don't have the full week off anyway.

Please keep starting school on a Thursday and fall break!! We need fall break to function!

Keep things the same. We need more breaks rather than cramming it all together

I really like the Thursday start date as it gives the students time to adjust back to campus life before

classes start. I would not like a Monday start date at all.

Fall break should remain the same since during that time student do tend to become overwhelmed as well as thanksgiving. So keeping those two breaks is good.

It's hard for teachers taking grad school classes to be in class on the first day of school. But that's just speaking from a grad school perspective which may not affect the schedule at all.

The questions concerning moving the start day from Thursday to Monday is ONLY acceptable to me if it means moving the start of classes to the following week of the original Thursday and NOT to the prior as more time to prepare for the semester is needed. It is typical for departments to have meetings this week which leaves little time for preparing for classes.

I don't want things to change. I like having fall break it's good to have a marker point for midterms

At my old school Fall Break was one day and Thanksgiving Break was an entire week. The faculty were expected to be on campus the Thursday before the semester began and students started in classes the following Monday. UCA has significantly less holidays than my old university for the academic school year.

Why is getting rid of study day the last day of the semester not an option? According to my students, this day is typically not utilized as a study day. It seems logical to me to have a three-day weekend for Fall Break, a full week at Thanksgiving, and eliminating one day of Fall Break and Study Day to get the two additional days needed to expand Thanksgiving Break.

**DONT TAKE AWAY FALL BREAK STUDENTS NEED THAT TIME**

I do not like the idea of starting the semester on a Monday - I like the controlled start on Thursday that gets syllabus week out of the way. I would prefer a week long break for Thanksgiving break.

I think fall break is a good break in the middle of October and thanksgiving break would be good for a week but not if that means compensating fall break.

Need a break before Thanksgiving. One week at Thanksgiving might be too long so close to Christmas. I think there will only be a positive outcome from taking away the two days for fall break and adding those days to thanksgiving break.

College classes beginning a few days later than public school classes balances chaos in the lives of students with their own families.

I think that the start date should not be changed. Fall Break should not be eliminated. Thanksgiving Break should be a full week and the 2 days needed to compensate should be added to the end of the semester. I think it should stay the same way it is and has been.

Regarding moving the start date from Thursday to Monday I do not think it should change. The first day being at the end of the week is best as it tends to be an overview of the syllabus and gives you the weekend to be prepared for the actual class to start the following Monday.

Start classes when local schools start. Get rid of fall break. Give a one week break at Thanksgiving.

I like the idea of extending thanksgiving break and would be okay if fall break is eliminated. I also think that we should KEEP school starting on Thursday

We do not need to start the term any earlier. Starting later on a Monday is fine.

My only problem is with eliminating Fall Break because I know that by that time in the semester I feel mentally unstable. I need that break so that I can be fully recharged for the next half of the semester. I am neutral on the idea of changing the first day of school to Monday because I do not feel that it makes any difference. I must say that if we move the first day of class to Monday, then it may be bad for the incoming freshman. I know my first week of school felt better because I had Thursday and Friday. Then I had time to think about a strategy for how I was going to tackle the year.

I like having a fall break and I don't think it is necessary to change that or Thanksgiving break. I am a graduate student at UCA and this is the first school I have been to that starts on a Thursday instead of a Monday, which was a little weird at first but not that big of a deal.

Many campuses across the country allow for a full week at Thanksgiving. Many UCA students still attempt to take that full week even though we don't provide that week. I would like to see UCA eliminate the Fall Break and just use those two days to have a full week at Thanksgiving. This would provide more time for families and even allow for more time for travel.

Beginning the semester on a Monday rather than a Thursday would help all course schedules (M, W, F; T, TH; M, W; and single day per week such as graduate courses or seminars) minimize the number of instructional days. The move to a Monday start would also help pave the way for future schedule changes such as the removal of M, W, F courses. M, W, F courses are too short to achieve the meaningful discussions that play a key role in upper division courses in many disciplines, and support the higher order learning processes that help our students be successful in the marketplace after graduation. M, W, and T, TH schedules with 75 minute class periods would also improve the following items: 1) Open Fridays for less frequent, longer, and more productive meetings; 2) Open Fridays for dedicated research and/or field days; 3) Provide larger blocks of uninterrupted time for faculty to advise undergraduate research projects; 4) Provide larger blocks of uninterrupted time for faculty to develop competitive research agendas.

Starting school on a Monday does not seem beneficial to me, having a few days to get myself ready after my child starts school helps to alleviate some of the stress.

Swapping the current fall break for a full week off at thanksgiving would be hugely beneficial with holiday planning and scheduling.

My students are fried by the time October rolls around -- without a fall break, their first substantial break comes extremely late in the semester. I think a fall break is crucial to their mental health.  
good ideas!

I like having both fall break and thanksgiving break.



I LIKE THE SCHEDULE HOW IT IS. DON'T YOU DARE TAKE AWAY MY FALL BREAK

Personally I would prefer a longer thanksgiving break but I honestly feel like the majority of the students would rather stay how it is now.

Thanksgiving break is too close to winter break to eliminate fall break. Fall break is important!

I have never understood why we started on a Thursday to begin with! So starting on a Monday would be good idea.

My major concern about having the entire week of Thanksgiving as a break is that at the current schedule, we would be gone one week and back one week for classes and then finals. If we can start a bit later in January so we have 2 weeks of classes after Thanksgiving break, that would be a better idea. Of course, as it is, that mainly only affects the students, as I'm sure Admins and staff would have to be here.

I think having a fall break is vital to keep up hard work through the rest of the semester in school work.

I think fall break is a necessary break in the fall. It allows students to have a weekend to focus and regroup to finish out the second half of the semester.

PLEASE DO NOT GET RID OF FALL BREAK I WILL DROP OUT

i would rather have a fall break than a week long thanksgiving break - the short break in the middle of the semester gives students time to take a break and relax and possibly even see family. It's much needed in the hectic college schedule. Moving from thursdays to Monday's at the beginning would also have a negative impact as college students are trying to readjust to being back to school as is.

Removing fall break would not be an improvement. It is a necessary break for both students and faculty. Removing fall break to extend Thanksgiving break is not necessarily an improvement. Other peer institutions that have done this seem to only gain an administrative benefit, as in it looks good in theory, but in practice, it is not an academic benefit.

While I am not as concerned on the Monday/Thursday issue, I am 100% for eliminating fall break and doing a full week for thanksgiving. I have a lot of family from out of town and it's hard to be able to see everyone in the few days we get off for thanksgiving. I am a transfer from CBC and the full week was so much better than the few days.

Why is a potential change in the UCA schedule being proposed? These are things you need to explain to students before you ask if we are for or against the schedule change.

Do not take away fall break

Personally, I feel starting classes on Thursday instead of Monday allows me to ease into the semester and get used to having classes again. Additionally, I went to a public school that had a full week off for Thanksgiving break and did not have a fall break. At the time I really enjoyed having the entire week off;

however, I know now that by the time fall break hits I am in desperate need for a little break from my classes. I need time to recharge my batteries and catch up on school work so that I can finish off the semester strong. I think these proposed changes would be detrimental to my success in college. Thank you for asking the campus about these possible changes!

DONT TAKE AWAY FALL BREAK! I REALLY NEED IT TO DEAL WITH STRESS! (:

Three day weekends are a time to relieve stress and allow time to catch up on things. I'd probably go crazy if fall break was eliminated. Unlike some students, I use that time to catch up on studying and writing all of my papers for the semester that I have yet to write. Please, please do not take that away! I like the UCA schedule of breaks as is! Semesters starting on Thursdays, Thanksgiving being a short break, and having a Fall break.

I think it is very beneficial to have more small breaks instead of one long one. It helps give a short refresher that many students need.

I think Fall Break is necessary because its a little break that everyone looks forward to because it gives students extra time to catch up on homework, sleep, and even some sort of outdoor activity as we get closer to the last month of classes. I think we would like to have a full week for Thanksgiving. Honestly, if we started school on a Monday or Tuesday to give us a full week for Thanksgiving break AND to let us have a Fall Break then I think a lot of students would also would be happy. We can only do so many repetitive days of work and school before we break. We need some time off. And only half a week for Thanksgiving isn't really alot, especially if you're traveling or have projects/homework. It makes it even harder if people have to work on Thanksgiving and Black Friday as well. Thank you!

I think both fall break and thanksgiving break are vital for students in relieving stress in the middle of the semester and I think having two small breaks is more beneficial than one longer break.

Keep fall break!!! Thanksgiving break bring extended would be nice for students whos family don't live in Arkansas but eliminating fall break would be a mistake.

I love the Thursday start because you have a chance to go to all your classes and get syllabus day over with and have a fresh ready to go start the next week. You have the weekend to get organized and get any supplies you may need. Fall break is essential to students. About that time in the semester we are all pulling our hair out and 2 days off is the only thing that keeps us going.

Fall break is needed. Many students that live off campus utilize this time to go home and be with family. Starting on Thursday works well, giving those two days for going over the syllabus, etc. I REALLY oppose eliminating fall break and having a week off at Thanksgiving. We need a break in the semester--instituting one was one of the best things UCA did; and if students got a whole week off at Thanksgiving you could write off the rest of the semester, especially in years in which there's only a week left after the break. In essence we would lose a week (or two) of effective instruction.

Must have fall break!!!

I think moving classes to start Monday is a good decision, but I don't feel like this date has to line up

with local schools because of portion of campus that is from out of state or coming back from working at a summer camp. Starting on a Monday makes sense because it allows professor the opportunity to start into the material instead of having an awkward break of the weekend if classes start on Thursday. I think eliminating Fall Break would negatively effect student's mental health. I know from personal experience that Fall Break has been a safe haven from work or projects that had to be completed before or after the Break. The fall semester doesn't have many holidays to begin with, it's an extremely busy and fast paced semester in terms of student events, and I believe eliminating that 2 day break would severely effect overall mental health of student's.

I think fall break is beneficial however it is not because we still have work. The two days added to thanksgiving break would give everyone more time with family and break before finals

I think the first day of classes should always start on Thursday and the fall break should be kept as they are or use one day for break and add the other day to Thanksgiving break

Fall break is an important aspect to student life at the university. It provides students with the opportunity to refocus, reorganize and get ahead on assignments.

Thanks for doing this!

I think that removing fall break would be a negative choice because college is very demanding and the students will need a mental break to go on until Thanksgiving and then after thanksgiving break we will be ok to go on for two weeks and then have a whole month off.

Please give us a full thanksgiving break next Fall semester!

There are students with schedules still in flux at the start of the semester. A Thursday beginning allows the students to get their schedules straightened out before labs start on Monday. Students that miss the first lab don't learn information essential throughout the semester on safety, use of expensive equipment such as microscopes, etc.

Online classes and students currently do not get a fall break so a fall break does not apply to us. We continue with classes like normal.

Instead of eliminating fall break, a much needed break during the semester that keeps me sane, I think it would be more beneficial to start the school year on a Monday rather than Thursday. Beginning the year three days earlier would compensate for extending Thanksgiving break to a full week and eliminate the possibility of retracting fall break from our schedule.

It's nice to have the fall break. I went to college at a school where we got no fall break and a week off for Thanksgiving (we also did not get Labor Day off). Then we came back for just one or two weeks of class before finals. As a student, I did not find that helpful--it came too late in the semester to be a good break.

I would vote for keeping fall break and leaving Thanksgiving the way it is. But I think it would be better to have fall break Monday and Tuesday instead of Thursday and Friday. We already miss another Thursday and two Fridays with the current schedule. This wreaks havoc with courses that only meet on Thursdays/

Fridays and those with Thursday/Friday labs.

Speaking of missing Fridays, study day is stupid--all it does is give another day off, only for no good reason. The students have a whole weekend before finals week. They do not need a third day to study, and I'd be willing to bet that almost none of them actually use that day preparing for their final exams. Also, giving them Friday off cuts into lecture time for MWF classes, which is not fair compared to TTh classes.

Having two shorter breaks has been more beneficial to me in the fact that we are getting two breaks at different times rather than just one longer break.

Scheduling the start of classes on a Thursday allows students - especially new 1st-year students in the Fall - a chance to settle in to the campus environment before they begin classes. Two days of classes followed by a weekend off gives them a chance to rest and regroup before the semester begins in earnest on Monday.

The Thursday start also give departments and faculty a few days early in the week for orientations, meetings and other activities to kick off the semester. Faculty also benefit from the chance to regroup over the weekend.

I think having a week off at Thanksgiving, and having to return for one week of classes and one week of finals would be difficult. The final week of classes would be treated less seriously it seems, and it would be hard for both faculty and students to have a full week so close to the end of the semester, and then have to return for only two more week. Spring break is much different since we have 4-5 more weeks afterward.

I do not think having a full week of Thanksgiving is necessary. Fall break is a nice little break for students when they are extremely overwhelmed. Just because other universities are changing does not mean we have to!

I enjoy the breaks that we have currently. I think that having more small breaks helps me to stay focused and motivated during the semester. Creating one large break I think would negatively effect my perception of the fall semester schedule.

I think starting on the same Monday that public schools start would not be beneficial to faculty/staff/ students who have kids starting the same day. The three days from the time school starts for public school children and the first day start with UCA allows faculty/staff/students to better prepare themselves for the first day at UCA instead of juggling both. If we were going to start on a Monday, I would suggest the Monday after public school begin. To off set the number of days, the two days at the beginning could be eliminated and we could not have the fall break.

Want you say move the first day of class to thursdays. I hope it deos not means To have classes during the week-end. Ne more precise

All I remember from move in week is how thankful I was to have Monday-Wednesday to adjust and not have to worry about Monday class. Hello, anxiety. In addition to, fall break is like salvation to students. It's the only thing that keeps is going. Seriously.

If we continue fall break, it needs to be on a Monday and Tuesday. As it stands, we miss Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for Thanksgiving; Wednesday and Thursday for Fall Break. We gain a Thursday and Friday because we start on Thursday. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday classes have a net loss of one class period per semester compared to Monday and Tuesday classes. That's not much, but for one day a week classes (like labs) it makes a difference.

Whatever is done, it needs to result in missing the same number of class periods for each day of the scheduled week.

I really enjoy having fall break as well as thanksgiving break. I would really like it if the schedule stayed that way. I like how classes start on Thursday, but I wouldn't be as upset if they changed to Monday.

Do not eliminate fall break! Maybe if you start a few days earlier on a Monday, that is where the two days to make thanksgiving break a week long could come from.

Please don't change this stuff. If it's not broken don't fix it! I enjoy having my fall break and thanksgiving break. They are both good pauses in the semester.

i think fall break definitely needs to stick around! i think thanksgiving break should be extended and the two days added should just be added to the beginning of the year, but i think we should start on a tuesday not a monday bc mondays are horrible and because if teachers/students have kids who start back on monday, they can take them to school that day and focus on the kids before getting back into school. The timing of Thanksgiving is bad given that there is just four days of instruction after the holiday and then final exams. If the entire week is a holiday, then we go nine full days without instruction and will have to rely on just four days to get students back on track before exams. If we really wanted to make this work best for our learning goals, we'd back up the semester to start early enough in August to end with a final exam week the week before Thanksgiving. Then start the spring semester January 2. Why not look into that? But I know scheduling breaks isn't about what is best for student learning--it's about what is best for faculty and staff with kids in public schools and daycare and our own students' work schedules.

Fall Break is a much needed break for LOTS of students including myself. Please do not take it away. I would rather have the same schedule as we have had this year instead of having a full week for thanksgiving if it means taking away fall break.

I like things the way they are now

A week at Thanksgiving affects Housing and the student because of possible need to stay on campus during break. With student staff and break charges for housing because of Halls having to close it will affect the student pocketbook. It can create a nightmare.

I enjoy having both fall break AND thanksgiving break. I also like starting school on Thursday. I don't feel that any of these changes are necessary or that they should be made. Thank you!

It's unique how UCA starts school on a Thursday because that allows students to be introduced to our TR and MWF classes. Also, since the first days are mostly syllabus, that would quickly give students the weekend to purchase the necessary textbooks and materials for the courses.

As a former student I always felt like the first Thursday/Friday of class was a wasted day where we talk briefly about the syllabus, but it give me a buffer to make sure I got the right books, can get my thoughts organized for the course, etc. As a staff member, I see similar things still. The time is almost a disconnect from the learning.

Particularly regarding fall break, this is a strange break. Cognitively, why would you send students "away" then bring them back only to send them away again for another couple days just to bring them back again and give a final on the course. It just seems extraneous. Plus students and faculty (and staff) with children mostly have to be off for the full week of Thanksgiving because school and childcare is out. So in the name of meeting diverse needs of our students and employees, why not combine fall break and Thanksgiving break?

If we start the school year on a Monday, I think that won't be better or worse. It won't make a difference for me. However, I think that we should start the school year earlier and still get a fall break and a longer Thanksgiving. These breaks are important to me because I need some days to relax and get assignments done. I would rather keep fall break and leave Thanksgiving break the way it is if missing days are an issue.

Don't change anything

Two small breaks is nice for each time, however, having it all together around the holiday allows for people to spend time at home and not worry about rushing back, especially if they live far away or in another state like myself. Money is also an issue. For example, I live in Michigan. I had to spend \$200 more by flying home on Wednesday 11/23 instead of leaving Tuesday 11/23 because of class. If I have the whole week, I could have saved ~\$250.

I have been to schools that didn't have a fall break but had a week for thanksgiving, and I found it very helpful. It gave a better chance to relax but also prepare for that final leg of the semester. I don't agree with the Monday start to the semester at all; I'm not an education major, but I'm not sure why starting on a Monday with local schools would help them. I think it's better that we don't all start on the same day because it gives the local schools a chance to settle themselves before the college students start their semester.

I don't think any changes should be made. Yes, the Thursday to Monday thing wouldn't be a big change. I don't think eliminating fall break would bring down the spirits of some students. Having, both, fall break and thanksgiving break is like having hurdles and goals for the students to reach. I think we should keep it the way it is.

I really needed fall break. It was a time that I got to spend with my family. Even though I still had homework, I was at a more relaxed pace to finish it. I like starting on thursdays because it gives me a chance to get the supplies each class needs over the weekend after already going to those classes one day. Please please PLEASE leave everything the same. I love my fall break and I think 3 days of thanksgiving is enough

Starting on Thursday is beneficial because students typically do not have textbooks yet (for some, it's because they haven't figured out financial aid yet), and many use the first weekend to acquire textbooks and reread

the syllabus. I realize that this might be able to be solved with new policies and advertising, but course planning will be negatively affected until it is resolved.

Do not take fall break.

Because of where the fall break is scheduled, it gives the entire campus community the opportunity to have a break between classes, working, etc and allow for needed family and personal time for individuals. In reviewing the placement of all holidays and breaks the fall break comes at an integral time for most persons.

I think these are all a mistake to change.

I think I prefer the intermittent breaks that both Fall Break and Thanksgiving Break offer, despite them being relatively short. To me, it's the difference between eating a cake all at once and not getting cake again, or being able to enjoy a cake over several days with smaller serving sizes.

Making Thanksgiving break 2 days longer would be awesome if we started fall semester two days earlier, not eliminating fall break nor making the semester extend later into December. It's not a big deal to start on a Monday if we get more break time later (when we really need a mental break from classes lol).

If there were a way to extend Thanksgiving break for all faculty and staff, that would be most beneficial, since those of us with school-age children often struggle to meet childcare needs on the days that local schools are on break but UCA is open. Of course, currently, staff do not have off for fall break or the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (or technically the Friday after Thanksgiving, until the governor issues his usual proclamation to let us have that day off), so truthfully this survey pertains only to students and faculty, not staff, but I'm sure many faculty would appreciate having breaks that align more closely with the local school calendar.

I think the fall break is much needed and at a great time. It helps push us through to finish out the rest of the semester strong.

I love having both Fall Break and Thanksgiving Break because the end of the semester is a time in which stress is running high. The more often I am able to have a few days to recuperate the better. I wouldn't mind having two days added to the semester to make Thanksgiving a full week considering some people have very long distances to travel in order to be home. I also appreciate having the first day of the semester being on a Thursday because it makes the first days less stressful because you know you only have to go to each class once in the first week. This set up allows students to get a taste of classes without getting overwhelmed in the first week.

**DO NOT GET RID OF FALL BREAK!!!!!!!**

I think that if you change the first day of semesters to a Monday, you risk new students who have transferred or are a freshman the ability to get to know the campus and those they will be living with.

I think Thanksgiving break should be a full week. I also this fall break should stay the length it is.

Please make registering for next semester classes earlier and with less of a break between grade

classes (freshman, sophomore, etc.) So that students will have less stress when preparing for the next semester. I like having start of semester on Thursdays!!!! Starting with the local schools won't be important to me. We aren't affiliated with their classes so we shouldn't have to worry about matching with them.

I think the fall break is important. The kids seem to be running out of energy by mid October. Having a full week break at Thanksgiving, right before what is usually the last week of classes will result in a rather large amount of information loss on the students part. Essentially this would mean that only review could occur in the last week of class.

I do not think fall break should be taken away. I feel as if fall break is vital for entering freshman. It is a break and treat for when they finally feel as if they have settled into college. Some freshman do not even go home until fall break and so those students would have to wait until thanksgiving to go home. I feel strongly that fall break should remain in the schedule.

I believe Fall break provides a much needed break to both instructors and students. I am a transfer student, and at my previous institution, we did not get a fall break. When I found that UCA had a fall break, I found it a valuable amount of time to catch up on class work and take a breather. I might recommend adding the extra 2 days to Thanksgiving Break if those 2 days came from somewhere else. Such as starting the semester early for solely that reason. Rather than starting the semester early for any other reason.

I think starting classes on a Monday helps to get a good idea of how the week will go and let you get a good week's full of assignments started.

Having two breaks is much better, it makes the semester easier to handle with a break at midterms. The need for a week long break so close to Christmas break is not necessary. Fall break is a great thing to motivate students by giving them something to look forward to.

Moving the start date of the Fall semester shortens the time for staff and administration to complete end of summer task that is necessary before the Fall semester.

I personally enjoy starting our semesters on a Thursday! Since we operate on a TR and a MWF schedule I think it's nice to attend just the first days of those classes at the end of the week so you have the weekend to get the necessary supplies or get your books if they are required, etc. However, I can see benefits of starting on Monday as well!

I like things the way they are

Having fall break is a good thing for students and faculty because around that time is when we are all needing a break from the burdens of school.

I would prefer to keep things the way they are.

Removing fall break would mean we would have to go nearly two straight months non stop. Fall break gives students a break to work forward to. I think the schedule is great as is. Please don't change a thing :(



The only problem with the full week out for Thanks giving is the very short remainder of the semester before finals. It will take some time for the culture to adjust. As for Monday starts, the same argument must be made- although I have often wondered what it would be like. Matching the local public school academic calendar makes sense much of the time.

a longer thanksgiving break would be great!!

One of my favorite things about UCA os that we start our semester on a Thursday. That gets syllabus days out of the way and lets everyone have all weekend to unpack and get settled. I've talked to many other college students at other schools and they're all jealous of how we do it.

N/A

I am strongly opposed to a full week break at Thanksgiving because the time left in the fall semester after that is so short. It is already difficult as it is to manage that last week, which isn't even a full week.

It often feels like wasted time to students and faculty alike. Much like the first partial week of the semester (since it doesn't start on Mondays). What we need is more useable time.

I believe that the semester should begin on a Monday considering that lab classes loose a full week of instruction when a partial week begins the semester. Also, many students and some faculty do not attend on the first Thursday and Friday since it is a short week and they do not assume that real teaching will begin until the following week. This effectively makes Thursday and Friday have little importance. Other Arkansas universities start on a Monday and have a semester that is 3 days longer than UCA's. If we want to hold true to our desire to offer a high quality of education, we should not scrimp on the length of the term.

I like Fall Break because it gives us a couple of days off before Thanksgiving!

We start very early in comparison to other universities. It would be great to start the fall semester after MLK Jr. day. Then adding the extra days for fall break and Thanksgiving don't seem like they are eating into the break.

I think removing fall break and extending Thanksgiving break is an excellent idea.

While I would personally enjoy the extension of fall break, I feel that students who have no means to leave campus or spend money at off-campus venues would not benefit from the extension of the break. When our University closes during breaks and holidays, these students are unable to access potentially the only places where they are able to get food and various other necessities. If the University does consider extending the break, this issue would need to be a big factor in that decision.

I don't see any problems with how the schedule is now and I am from out of town. I still get to go home for Thanksgiving but really appreciate a fall break as well.

Starting on a Thursday is often a waste for me since the labs I teach are typically scheduled for Thursday. It is really hard to begin the semester with a lab and attendance in lab on that particular day

is very poor. Furthermore, eliminating Fall Break gives me an extra Thursday which adds an extra lab day!! I am totally in favor of starting the semester on a Monday and eliminating Fall Break.

I like the schedule the way it is and prefer multiple shorter breaks in the fall semester to less frequent but slightly longer ones.

The last question is confusing.

Please do not remove our fall break. Summer break is too long so you could easily extend the semester by moving our first day of classes up, but fall break is a necessary time to relax, and not everyone goes home for thanksgiving, or needs a full week for that.

The small breaks are checkpoints for many students. They allow us to take a break and evaluate how things are going. The breaks are needed and should be kept where they are.

Maybe more could be added throughout the spring as well to rather mirror the fall--thanksgiving break:spring break. And add a two day spring down time like our current fall break--the spring just feels drawn out with fewer breaks and only a spring break.

Starting classes on thursdays is great for it allows us to ease ourselves into the groove of school. One day each for a MW and TH allow us to get a feel of what's to come and get a general idea of what our week will look like before starting. Plus having the weekend is a nice to let things process after the first two days. Going a full week would be very stressful

Please don't change anything. Starting classes on Thursday lets us gradually get back into the swing of going to school. Having two shorter breaks in the fall instead of one week-long break helps break the semester up into manageable chunks. Without fall break, the semester would seem to drag on.

A week for thanksgiving break is nice, but I need fall break to get my life together.

I would not like that at all and I think it should be left alone and kept the way it is now

I love fall break and Thanksgiving break. Please don't get rid of either of them, cause it would be crazy.

I believe that starting on a Thursday should stay in place because it allows students to attend each of their classes once and then have a weekend to decide if they would like to continue with the class and also to get prepared for each class. I also believe two breaks (even if they are short) are needed over one long one. It allows students a time to relax and not stress. Thanksgiving break isn't much of a break with coming back and having one week until finals and if having that as the only break in the fall would not be beneficial to the health and well being of the students at UCA

I feel as if starting classes on a Monday would take away from the SOS's week to help students transition from high school to college. Additionally, starting school on Thursday allows students to visit their TTH classes and MWF classes one day in advance to knock out syllabi week.

Also, eliminating fall break will allow students more time with family during thanksgiving break.

You have to take into account that UCA accepts students all around the world and a full week would

allow students to fully enjoy time with their families.

Please don't eliminate fall break!

From a faculty perspective, I think that if Thanksgiving break is extended to a whole week, students' focus will be completely gone and the class time between Thanksgiving and the end of the semester will be useless.

I really enjoy having fall break. It is a much needed refreshing time and I would be disappointed to no longer have it.

Having a full week for Thanksgiving break encourages student and staff to spend more time with their family which is what Thanksgiving is about. Fall break is a good small break for the students to relax. Getting rid of it would discourage a lot of students.

I think students need fall break to be able to relax and come back ready to take on school. I personally think taking fall break away would hurt my grades and make me come to class less due to no break. The thanksgiving break now of three days is adequate, because we only have two weeks of school left after that and then have Christmas break. Students need the spaced out breaks to keep the focus on school and a positive attitude.

What are the implications for moving the first day of class to Monday? What happens to Welcome Week? This may be a stretch but welcome week could extend Sunday-Sunday and that next Monday could be the first full week. What would happen to our schedule if we went back to school the same week Conway Public Schools did? Considering they go back earlier, would we, consequently, get out of school in April/May even earlier? I think sending out some hypotheticals of "if this happens, then this will result" would be beneficial to get a better grasp on what it would mean should we decide to change the day and date in which we go back to school.

As a college instructor, I notice that students are fatigued towards the middle of the semester, and I feel that fall break allows for a brief rejuvenation. During Thanksgiving break, the presence of family members and traveling may not allow for the rest and catch up time that Fall Break allows; therefore, if I had to choose between keeping Fall break or extending Thanksgiving, I would opt to keep Fall break. However, if both options are possible if 2 extra days are tacked to the end or beginning of the semester, this option would be ideal so that people to rest and spend time with their families, allowing for a balance between family and academic life.

I think that the current schedule is the best for all UCA students mental health. The fall break gives needed time early in the semester, and a full week is not needed at Thanksgiving. Having the first day of classes on a Thursday is a unique benefit at UCA and changing that would only stress out more students that much faster.

Fall break is very important to students because it allows us a chance to catch our breath and to rest up for the last part of the semester which is always more difficult.

as someone whose hometown is relatively close by, I feel that the two breaks (fall and thanksgiving) are beneficial. It helps break up the monotony of a full week of class. One larger break, as opposed to two, would feel tedious in my opinion.

However, the one long break is probably way more beneficial for people who live far away, because it is easier for them to get home for a longer period of time.

Unrelated note: I would like to see a survey involving the pros and cons of moving to a four day class schedule. Two classes a week per course, each lasting an hour and fifteen minutes. This is how my schedule is currently, and the extra day makes it ten times easier to work, travel, or devote time to homework.

I want to keep Fall Break!!!!!!!

Keep the schedule the same. A full week for Thanksgiving isn't necessary.

I would rather have two short weeks than two long ones

It is very nice to have fall break!! If Christmas break wasn't so close to Thanksgiving break, the full week off for Thanksgiving would be nice. Since they are less than a month apart, I do not think it's necessary to have the whole week off.

I prefer starting the fall semester on a Thursday but would rather have a full week for Thanksgiving, and I would much rather lose two days at the beginning of the semester than to lose fall break.

PLEASE do not do away with fall break. I would lose my mind.

I strongly agree we still need a fall break.

I think it is fine how it is currently.

I really enjoy getting to move in and get back in the hang of things during the few days before class starts on Thursday. I believe it would make welcome week extremely stressful, especially for freshman who are new to all of this. Overall, I do not want to lose fall break because I think it really does help us as college students to get that break.

I have been saying this to fellow students for a couple of years now. Get rid of fall break and just get a full week off for Thanksgiving. Fellow students have said much the same.

Classes could start on Wednesday instead of Thursday. That would give students 2 days to take care of paper work, settle into the dorms, buy books, etc.

As a member of the faculty, I have found that the energy level after Thanksgiving break until the end of the semester is very low, and it is difficult to motivate my students. A full week of vacation for Thanksgiving is too close to the end of the semester. I am afraid that the energy level and lack of motivation would be even lower if we had a week off in late November. A full week off makes more sense around mid-semester. This was very confusing and hard to follow. The fact that questions were asked twice with only one word changes is in my opinion a way to trick the person taking it. Also I really hope that the university understands that most college students work. Some even work full time like myself. Fall break is nice to have during the fall semester just to catch up on work and rest.

It needs to be clear whether or not changing from a Thursday start date to a Monday starting date would add two days to the fall semester. Additionally, I would love to see a survey for faculty members choosing between a Friday and Saturday commencement ceremony. Many universities have commencement ceremony on a Friday.

Please keep Fall Break!! It's a nice getaway from classes even if it is only two days and a lot of professors don't even have class during Thanksgiving Break week!!

I believe Fall break is an important "sanity" need for students to catch up on projects.

I believe that the dates and breaks should be kept as they already are. I do NOT want to do away with fall break, it is a much needed break. Also starting classes on Monday at the start of semester would make for a super long first week, which I would not like.

I believe that starting on a Thursday helps students get the boring part of the semester out of the way (syllabus week) out of the way. if moved to a monday it would literally be a syllabus WEEK and would put classes behind rather than letting us begin fresh the monday after. Also as a senior at UCA I have learned to appreciate fall break it is in the midst of a chaotic time during the semester and it's a nice break used to get away even if we still have homework not having to get up for class and being able to enjoy time outside of school is nice. A week of thanksgiving is too long, most families celebrate Wed-Friday if anything and would be better if kept as is.

Leave the schedule how it is

As a student, I VERY strongly disagree with moving the two days of fall break onto our thanksgiving break. I like having it broken up into two separate breaks throughout the fall semester and would hate to see the schedule change. That being said, every other student I have talked to feels the same way. I wouldn't mind, however, to add two days to the calendar and have a fall break along with a full week for Thanksgiving break; the only thing I disagree with is eliminating a fall break.

I don't think we should eliminate the fall break. as a nursing student I love fall break. By that time I am so tired & I need a break and those two days do that for me. I don't need a whole week for thanksgiving, mainly because we only come back for one week and then it's finals, so just give me two days off for thanksgiving and let me take my finals early

Leave it how it is!!!

Fall break gives students a chance to take a breather and have a few days to relax or catch up on school work. I think that it is very important to keep both issues as they currently are. In regards to beginning the semester on a Thursday, students can use the following weekend to complete necessary tasks, such as picking up necessary school supplies, finding the most efficient routes to classes, etc. Fall Break should be kept in the schedule because it allows more frequent breaks in the semester. I would be okay with having shorter breaks if I could have them more often.

I love that UCA begins classes on Thursdays. It's a great way to get your feet wet before jumping right

in. One of the positive things that makes UCA so special and so different especially for Welcome Week and freshman. Extending the thanksgiving break is a great idea but that should not result in eliminating fall break. I would rather have to go to school two extra days at the end of the semester.

Starting the semester on a Thursday is a good thing because it gives students time to adjust to the new semester. Syllabus days are convenient to be on Thursday and Friday. Then students are able to use the weekend as a break and start off the new semester on a strong note on Monday. Fall Break is important because it gives students a break right after mid-terms. If the Thanksgiving Break was extended, there wouldn't be any benefit because students would come back to a 4-day week and then finals.

Next time add something about parking. We do not need a fall break. An extended thanksgiving break would've been perfect

Starting the semester on a Thursday allows students two days of school and an immediate weekend to adjust to classes and homework.

I like the schedule as it is now. Please don't change it!

Please do not take away Fall Break!! Students love this long weekend to relax during the busy semester!!

Fall break and a longer thanksgiving would be great! I don't mind starting earlier.

I don't like the idea of starting the fall and spring semesters on a Monday, for the simple fact that on Thursday and Friday I would find my classes and get the syllabus for the course.

I really like having fall break. It gives me a small rest that I need.

While it certainly sounds like a good idea on paper, having a long Thanksgiving break right before finals week and then the long Christmas break would throw off student motivation even more than usual (in my opinion). Also, starting class on Thursday has always been helpful so that student can have the weekend to prepare for what their schedule will be like in a more practical sense. Students tend to use that weekend to organize syllabi and to get anything else that is required for their courses.

Students need a break during the fall semester. Taking away fall break and extending thanksgiving would not be a beneficial break because it's at the very end of the semester

Please do not tamper with the routine. New students can adjust to the environment, as we did. The routine is working great. If anything, just adjust the first Fall day of classes to Monday. Even this change is unnecessary. My first Fall semester, I missed the first class on Friday because I thought it would begin on Monday. Didn't have any bearing on the semester. Irrelevant. Just leave it alone.

First day of semesters should start on a Monday. I never understood why it didn't. Thanksgiving break should defiantly be a week break, never understood why it wasn't. Fall break really isn't necessary, it's only two school days.....rather have a week for Thanksgiving!!!!

Having Fall Break is a great relief to many students as well as faculty and staff. It is somewhat of a midway point for the fall semester. Many midterm exams are also given around this time. It is nice to have that short break after midterms. Personally, it allows more time to travel also.

Starting the semester on a thursday allows students to ease into to the semester

I like the idea of having Thursday and Friday being the first two days of class, because I can get a feel for my schedule and have the weekend to get materials and relax before classes really start. I also enjoy having fall break and thanksgiving break separate because they're spread out and help with stress, even though they are a little short.

I think that these changes would NOT be an improvement to the schedule or to the mental well-being of the students attending UCA. I am all for extending Thanksgiving Break in order to get to spend more time with family, however, it would not be worth it if it meant the elimination of Fall Break. Fall Break is a necessary time to give students that mental break and a time to relax after midterms. I am a senior, and I know that at this point in my college career, I really needed that break in order to catch up on my schoolwork as well as to have time to collect myself before the downhill spiral that is the end of the semester. In addition, many students at UCA are from Arkansas or some state nearby, so while 3 days is not much, it is enough time to relax with family before finals. I understand that these implications will not necessarily affect me, as I am graduating in May, however, I believe it best for the overall student population, that we keep the Fall semester the way that it is. ALSO! Starting the semester on a Thursday is the best thing ever. Thank you.

The schedule works fine as it is.

I worked at a previous institution that did not have a fall break, but had an extended Thanksgiving break. It was a disaster. Students' coping skills were not able to last from the start of the semester all the way until Thanksgiving. In addition to making it more difficult for students to cope, faculty nerves were completely frayed from dealing with students' breakdowns. Even if the fall break is mostly spent working, the psychological break from classes provides a slight reprieve, and it allows faculty and students to catch up on work. If we choose to extend Thanksgiving break, that's fine, but I do not recommend it be done at the expense of fall break.

I don't think it would be a good idea to move the first day of class to a Monday because classes would start in full swing that first week, and especially freshman, would have a hard time adjusting so quickly. I also think it would be great to have a whole week for Thanksgiving Break because people, like me, aren't off on weekends so fall break wasn't enough time for me to go see my family because I had to be back for work on Friday, and the same goes for Thanksgiving Break. I will get to go see my family, but I will have to leave early due to work and having 2 extra days at the beginning of the break would be very helpful. Thanks!

We need fall break, a week of Thanksgiving break and adding on two extra days will be fine. Take away the study day before finals as well.

Why can't the days needed to extend Thanksgiving break to a full week come from the extra days that would result from making the first week start on Monday?

I think fall break gives a much needed short catch up break of sorts to many students, myself included, and should not be done away with. As far as thanksgiving break goes, the two days we do have class does not bother me, and if we do change it to getting out of class for the full week, those days should be added to the end of the semester rather than taking away fall break.

Starting on a Thursday allows for students and teachers to be focused and ready to start material the following Monday.

Fall break allows for students to have a much needed two days to destress from classes. It can be used as motivation to finish out the weeks before strong and allows students to come back refreshed afterwards.

I like the way the schedule is set up now! No I'm not opposed to change, but I think starting on a Thursday is a good introduction into classes because you have most if not all of them on those two days and it's nice to just get oriented to where your classes are and introduced to the course and then have the weekend to organize your supplies and get anything you may be lacking for the course. I also really enjoy fall break and would rather have that and a shorter thanksgiving break like we have now rather than a whole week off. It's very nice to have a few days off and be able to catch up or get ahead every now and again. I think having a whole week off for thanksgiving is a little over the top and is too much time off all at once and would be harder to stay on track or remember what you were talking about before break started. While I think change is important I don't think that this needs to be changed at UCA. You want a suggestion for something that should be changed? If you have an A in the course all semester you shouldn't have to take the final because clearly you understand the content and put forth the effort to succeed.

Please give students a full week for Thanksgiving! 3 days is not enough, and many students end up skipping Monday & Tuesday anyway to be with family out of state! This would make traveling so much easier, and less stress for students.

I strongly support the current Fall break. It comes at a time that students and faculty benefit from those days off that are not engulfed with official holidays. Please keep Fall break.

I don't necessarily believe the day that the semester starts really makes much of a difference. We will simply adjust the schedule accordingly.....

Having a whole week off at Thanksgiving is not necessary and it comes so close to the end of the semester that it could actually be detrimental to students.

I really like the fall break because it gives students a good break from all the hard work they have put in up until midterm point. Eliminating it would be very disheartening & cause more stress in my opinion. Having breaks allows the college kids to take a load off & enjoy things other than school.

That fall break is needed so badly. That season is so busy, not only because of where it falls in the semester, but also because of outside events! The weather is perfect and it's so refreshing to have that 4 day weekend to look forward to for an extra time to regroup before tackling the rest of the semester. A week for



Thanksgiving without fall break is too long without a significant vacation time. Just like the spring! February gets depressing because we are in classes for so long without a chance to catch a significant mental break until the back half of March. With the seminars and talks on Mindfulness recently, I know taking long stretches of time to regroup have drastically changed my attitude about completing the semester without losing hope or shutting down from stress. Please don't take away fall break.

I think starting classes on a Thursday is a great way to start, because it allows students to get a brief introduction to what they should expect, and a weekend to gather necessary materials or adjust. Starting on a Monday might not leave adjustment time for students to buy books or supplies they might need if they work and attend classes.

I also believe that the fall break does a great job of giving a nice mid-semester breather to students around midterm time. A week off at thanksgiving would most likely involve some sort of homework or studying since it is so close to finals, and therefore would not actually extend a "break" for students. I think the breaks should be left how they are.

Don't eliminate Fall Break by subtracting those two days and adding it to making Thanksgiving Break a full week. Students really enjoy having Fall Break to look forward to, even if it is only 4 days with the weekend. Thanksgiving break does not need to be a full week. While nice, students usually forget school lessons over the time, and having two short breaks is better than a longer one. It gives you more to look forward to. Also, moving the first day of classes from Thursday to Monday is a terrible idea. Starting class on Thursday is excellent because it follows the block scheduling of classes, and gives students time over the weekend after classes have just begun to prepare for a full week. Starting classes on Monday just makes it hard to motivate students and gives them no time to prepare once they have visited all their classes. It is too much at once. Starting on Thursday makes it more manageable.

I think that it works as it is and we shouldn't change it. If the first day is the same as local schools the traffic will be horrible and it works a lot better for families that move on campus for it to not be. And it will affect the welcome week activities. PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE THIS!

I cannot speak for everybody, but I need a fall break!! It helps me destress a little during a hectic semester. Also, I love starting classes on Thursdays. It allows me to get back in the swing of things before I have to go to class for a full week. Also, having the weekend allows me to get suggested school supplies for class on Monday. Starting classes on Thursdays is one of my favorite things about this school! You can't change it!!! I look forward to the two breaks. It's better to have two shorter ones that give ourselves a much needed rest from all of the stress from school, than to have a single break that's just a couple of days longer. I would be difficult to go from August to the end of November with no break. Some students, like me, live several hours away from home and these breaks are about the only time we get to visit family.

I think either eliminating the fall break all together or extending thanksgiving break is a good idea. For some of us the Fall break doesn't really effect us one way or another. By giving us a full week at thanksgiving, I would use it to work on final projects for the end of the semester like I do for spring break.

**PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE ANYTHING. STARTING ON THURSDAYS AND HAVING BOTH FALL BREAK AND THANKSGIVING BREAK IS SOMETHING I WISH WILL NOT LEAVE THE POLICY!!!!**

I don't think I could function as well if fall break was eliminated. I need that break at that point in the semester. I'm okay with thanksgiving break being shorter because of it.

I am opposed to the elimination of Fall Break. This is an absolutely necessary part of student and faculty recharging after midterms. Often students come back from Fall Break with new and improved attitudes, or having come to conclusions about dropping classes and changing programs. This time for reflection can be critical for student success.

I am not opposed to starting classes on Monday. But there are some benefits to having everyone on-campus for three weekdays before classes begin, such as gathering students and faculty for diagnostic tests, meetings, orientations, etc.

If Thanksgiving were made into a full week-long break, I would be a strong advocate for holding two full weeks of classes following Thanksgiving. This traditional vacation already gets in the way of academics, breaking up the end of the semester just before finals. Having a little more consistency between Thanksgiving break and Final Exams, with two weeks of classes, would make it much easier for final presentations and projects to be conducted in a logical schedule. Holding classes a week later into December would align more closely with the public schools, for those who see this as important.

Thanksgiving break is so close to finals that it is usually filled with stress. We need Fall Break.

Keep classes starting on Thursday.

Give thanksgiving a week break.

Keep fall break.

Add 2 days if we get a week for thanksgiving but keep fall break!

Starting school back, the same time as elementary or high school kids, isn't a good idea because some have kids to help get ready for that week.

Although extending the Thanksgiving break would be helpful since some families live a distance away, I do not think that using the days from fall break to counteract the addition is the best option. Personally, Fall Break allowed me to de-stress and recenter myself at a point where I could evaluate my grades and make decisions based upon them. This was crucial to keeping my grades high this semester. I believe that the semester should simply be extended two days and made altogether longer.

The Thursday start is very beneficial because it allows you two days to go to class, meet your professors, get a feel for everything, and get a short break before you hit the ground running.

Fall Break is important because it helps break up the semester. It can become long and monotonous so the break helps students to rejuvenate and come back ready to roll

I enjoy starting school on a Thursday. This makes for a short week the first week of school to "get your feet wet" before diving right in to a new semester.

I think UCA faculty, staff, and students could benefit from moving the start of classes to a Tuesday. That gives everyone time to get back in off of the weekend prior to school starting, while still adding two days to the schedule allowing us to extend Thanksgiving break to a full week without having to give up Fall Break. And certain education programs (e.g. Nursing, Athletic Training, OT, PT...) still have one solid day to do inservice training. This is actually how a lot of schools begin their classes.

Travel is so limited with such a small thanksgiving break. It is ridiculous to pretend to offer a "break" that is so hectic in an effort to escape classes early enough to spend any amount of time with family, friends, and most importantly, people who are not affiliated with the university in the slightest. To make up for the lost two days in this new (and improved) Thanksgiving break, classes should start a week earlier in August. This way classes would end sooner and students can leave and cry in the comfort of heir own childhood homes.

Fall break is necessary to ensure sanity on campus. August to November is a long stretch of time to be engulfed in study. Although I whole-heartedly believe that caffeine intake would increase dramatically around mid-October and persist through November, which would benefit the on campus coffee shops, this would undoubtedly have negative long term effects on the student body. Increased resting heart rates, less money, and generally more jittery personalities would plague the students you're supposed to be serving.

Starting on a Thursday is beneficial if for no other reason than to hit the semester in full force on a Monday instead of meandering around until Wednesday when people try to figure out what is maybe perhaps probably going on in class. Keep the Thursday start date.

Having two shorter breaks is way better for students rather than having one long break because school is hard and it is more beneficial for students to have a short break to recuperate but not long enough that they forget everything they are learning in class just prior to finals week.

please don't change anything. i would actually want two days ADDED on to the end of my semester so we could still have a week off for thanksgiving than take it from fall break, or move our syllabus days to the beginning of the week.

I do not see how my education would be improved by adding days onto the semester. Actually, I believe students, faculty, and staff would be discouraged by an increase in instruction days due to the intensity of a typical semester as it is. Substituting a mediocre fall break for a longer Thanksgiving break is a genius idea. Fall break is a waste of a break, especially since Friday course schedules are typically lighter than any other day of the week. If anything, please move fall break to a Monday/Tuesday instead of a Thursday/Friday. Thank you for thinking about your students. Please do not lose sight of the goal--which of these changes will enhance student success the most?

**JUST LEAVE IT THE SAME!**

I think keeping the students involved is a great idea.

There is no way I can survive without fall break.

Having a full first week of class is hard, just a Thursday and Friday is easier to get back into the semester. Fall break provides a much needed rest rather than having no breaks between Labor Day and Thanksgiving. The UCA schedule should stay the same, college/grad school is hard enough.

Traffic to campus is already terrible, IMAGINE THE HELL on the first day of school. Please don't change the days.

-Sincerely,

A concerned driver.

I like both options the way they are now. Students need a break midway through the semester and I love that we do both a fall break and a thanksgiving break. I would be highly upset to see fall break be removed.

In addition, I really like starting on a Thursday because it gives all the students a chance to attend all their classes once, then have the weekend to prepare any extra materials they need for the course.

UCA is unique in its schedule, but that isn't a bad thing. Please don't change it!

Keep the Fall Break!

Being an on-line student, these changes will have very little effect on me.

A week long Thanksgiving break seems too long just a week before winter break. Too long in the sense of being disruptive to learning goals. On the other hand, the fall break seems helpful to giving a break to students (and faculty) when they really need it.

Fall break does not even feel like a break. Having a full week for Thanksgiving would be more useful.

I think this is a needed change and would align with what other schools in the state are doing.

Thanksgiving should be a full week.

I like having two short breaks in the semester.

I like being about to start my semester and have a weekend to get everything together. I need that prep time. I don't like just jumping in without a heads up.

I strongly agree that if the thanksgiving break was move two a full week it would help student with children.

Fall break is good, very needed for teachers and students. Making Thanksgiving break would only increase the amount that people leave early and come back having no clue about what is happening in class. Students need to realize that school is important, giving us more time off probably will not help that. Also some UCA teachers are good and some are not very good, helping the less good ones will drastically improve the amount that good students want to be involved in class. Bad students need help figuring out that it is okay to not go to college, if you don't want to be here and working to better yourself, not paying tuition is a way better way to sit on a couch and hang out.

Having classes start after local schools start allows me to take my kids to school on their first day without fear of having to miss one of my own classes.

Usually, I wouldn't mind eliminating fall break but this semester has been my busiest and hardest one yet, and fall break this semester saved my sanity.

1. The current start day allows students ample time to Procure materials for class, make needed changes to their schedule, and handle other pertinent business.
2. The current start time is helpful to non-traditional students and faculty with school aged children.
3. Eliminating the fall break and extending the Thanksgiving break will eliminate canceled classes the week of the holiday.
4. While the fall break is nice, it is unnecessary.

I like having the Fall break as a student to catch up on papers reading etc and would not mind extending the semester a couple of days longer.

Thanksgiving break extension to one week as a staff member is desirable as most people take that entire week off anyway.

If we start on the Monday after the usual Thursday it will be great and the Thursday and Friday will be added to the Thanksgiving (1 week break)  
As a staff member, I voted neutral to most issues. But, I think anyone who has family would love to spend the whole week of Thanksgiving with family. It also saves on gas for those who would travel home for fall break and the Thanksgiving holiday.

Having class start on a Thursday is great for freshmen, a whole week of classes and getting supplies and already having homework is a lot of stress  
I do not see the point in a fall break since it is only two days. I would much rather have a full week for Thanksgiving instead.

Fall break is usually around midterms, which are extremely stressful. I always look forward to those extra 2 days off because it gives me time to recuperate.  
Fall break is so important to me! Please keep it. As a student I prefer to have little breaks versus taking an entire week off. It's really hard to get back into the subject material after an entire week.

It is hard enough to accomplish much in the remainder of the semester that follows the current Thanksgiving break. Extending the break to give students a full week off and then have them come back for four days of classes would be detrimental to instruction.

Don't change anything it is perfect the way it is. I forget everything in a week and I like coming back on a Thursday to get a feel for the classes before I have to conquer them for a whole week.  
As the Director of New Student Programs, I coordinate freshmen move in day and welcome week. I am neutral on most of these changes because the conversation has not been had regarding how this might impact these two aspects of my work. I think these changes could be very good, as long as we know how move in day and welcome week will be affected and that it is a positive change for our students during that week.

I would die without fall break. We need a break in the middle.

Fall break is the only thing that keeps me sane.

Fall break is like taking a final breath before diving into the busiest part of the semester and would not be compensated for by adding two days to Thanksgiving Break because Thanksgiving falls so late in the semester that many tests and projects have already passed. Having two more days for Thanksgiving break would have little impact on me because I work and am still required to stay in Conway until Thanksgiving Day.

As for starting the first day of classes on a Monday instead of a Thursday, because most professors treat the first day of class as a syllabus day, it makes most sense to have those days detached from the rest of the week by starting on a Thursday. We receive the appropriate information to prepare for class on Thursday and Friday and class begins that next week.

It's also nice to have a few days to settle back into Conway (because I start work the same day that Conway Schools have their first day of class) before I start my classes at UCA. Moving the first day of class to a Monday would not be a negative change, but it doesn't seem particularly relevant unless it is done to extend Freshman Orientation.

I believe students need both fall and Thanksgiving breaks in order to refresh their learning abilities.

I have none, but I do feel strongly about what I answered!

I think that starting school on the Monday before the usual Thursday that we start school will allow students to have a fall break and a week for thanksgiving without having to compensate for any missed days in the school year.

The question, "I think moving the first day of classes at UCA for the fall semester to match the first day of school for the school year at local elementary, middle, and high schools is important." Because we have so many students who have children in the local schools, I think starting on the exact same day would add an unnecessary level of chaos and stress to our students who are also parents.

I think having school start on a Thursday is a good transition to get back into the groove of going back to school after being out for break. And I think it is also important to have fall break AND thanksgiving break because it allows for two short breaks from school. That's important because often times school becomes overwhelming, and we need several breaks to basically recompose ourselves and our sanity before continuing in the semester. Also, I think if we missed a full week of class most professors would assign an abundance of homework which really defeats the purpose of a break. Starting class on Thursday gives students the necessary time to adjust to being back in class and prepare by buying books and having time to rest.

Thanksgiving break is so close to finals that losing an entire week of school right before would be very stressful. It's better to give us a short break so that we do not get into "school is out" mode before finals.

Most school districts have a full week off at Thanksgiving. If UCA matched this, then many families (including siblings) could spend time together or go on trips.

I believe that students mentally and physically need the break from school that both fall break

and thanksgiving break provide. Having that long weekend of relaxation midway through the semester is such a relief.

I would be okay with having the T'giving break as a full week and have the added days be part of the first week of classes. I feel it puts teachers in an awkward position when other faculty often have cancelled class and many students have planned travel and do not attend a class that meet.s

I think for equity you could move fall break to a Monday-Tuesday (extending a weekend) This would allow Thursday labs to not be hit with two holidays.

Starting on a Monday would make getting everyone moved in and oriented very difficult.

While I train different groups the week before welcome week we often use welcome week to then have faculty/staff meetings. Moving to Monday would compound student/faculty/staff all having to try to train and meet at the same time the week before classes begin.

I think fall break is important for student mental health and I believe it would be a mistake to get rid of that.

I also don't really see a point in extending thanksgiving break. I would rather have that extra time during winter break.

These sound like interesting changes, however as a staff member that doesn't get Fall Break anyway it doesn't really affect me personally. If non-faculty staff were given the full week of Thanksgiving by removing the Fall Break then that would be an improvement. Otherwise it has pros and cons. Longer break all at once but extends the time in-between breaks for students and faculty.

As for starting classes on Mondays instead of Thursdays I've always felt it illogical to start on a Thursday but I guess I see the appeal; get to your first class but then get a small break sooner. So again as a staff member this doesn't really affect me personally, so the opinions of actual students/faculty would probably be more valid there.

I enjoy fall break because it's around the time of midterms and it gives a short break to relax from a stressful week. I don't think extending thanksgiving break would be a good idea because two short breaks are better than one long one. I also enjoy classes starting on a Thursday because it give you a chance to feel out the class and he professors before diving into a large work load. The way things are now are fine!

Fall break is not needed. Eliminating it and keeping Thanksgiving as is provides options to start fall later or end fall earlier.

I think a full week at Thanksgiving is a good choice because students and faculty could use the time to travel but also prepare or complete required academic work; staff could benefit since they could use vacation time without worrying about missing important work. A longer break would also match the public school system, lending additional support to our working parents. Please make this happen.

Starting the semesters on a Thursday gives students and professors a day in class to go over the course and syllabus then gives the students a weekend to organize themselves and get what they need for class before classes 'truly' start.

A break after midterms is beneficial to students mental health, but if breaks are too short students have to pick between catching up on work or actually taking a break. Short breaks also throw schedules off and don't yield much benefit. I believe it would be more productive to have less breaks, but have the breaks be longer. Extended semesters is perfectly fine for me if the breaks are longer.

On a side note, if we have only short breaks then professors shouldn't assign larger projects/papers to do over the 'break'.

By removing fall break you take away from a potential wellness check period for students and staff.

By giving too much time during Thanksgiving could create lax in students and staff, and increase in absences on the day back from Thanksgiving break. Things are good the way they are, don't change them.

Eliminating fall break and providing a week break for Thanksgiving would improve flow of the semester and moral of faculty.

How about getting rid of Aramark from the UCA Campus. Their food is not very good, it seems they do nothing to improve their menu and food quality. There is definitely a lack of variety at Aramark.

I'm staff, I'm here during Fall Break. This only affects faculty and students. If we close for the week of Thanksgiving, then I'm all for it. I want the University to close, otherwise I have to be here working because every one else is gone and I have to keep the office open. Vacation? Good luck getting to take off. Every one is gone, who's left to cover the office? ME.

I think that fall break is a great thing we have here at UCA. It helps everyone get some well needed rest or homework done before we have to come back to classes. It should remain the same because it gets tiring to be a student especially if you work, have kids, or any other activities or responsibilities. Fall break allows everyone to recuperate during the semester just a little and allows us to come back refreshed and focused. Yes, it would be lovely to have an entire week off for Thanksgiving, but logically we all can live without the full week. Unless it will extend winter break, then I'm all for NOT having a week off for thanksgiving. Thank you!

I think extending the first day of class to a Monday would make orientation week and the days for syllabi to be passed out would make the week too long. By having it on Thursdays, it gives a glimpse of the classes during a full week without being a full week (due to those days being introductions and the first official two days of classes) and gives a weekend for those who need to adjust and start planning more time to prepare, rather than throwing them straight into a full first week of school.

Don't take away fall break!

I like things the way they are.

Eliminate fall break and use those two days for a full week for thanksgiving. My family schedules to go out of town and I am always the reason why we have to wait because of having to go to school for the two days before break.



This type of scheduling has been on the agenda from Wingo Hall for quite sometime. It is apparent from the questions asked that this agenda item is still on the administration's radar and that several of these changes could result in faculty working on teaching obligations when they are off contract from the University. It is unlikely that the University would provide adequate compensation for the advanced start.

For students who have children at home/in school, it makes sense to coincide the Thanksgiving break with the public schools schedules.

I think that Fall Break is an important reprieve within the UCA academic calendar. Given that breaks are spread out quite nicely throughout the fall semester, three days off for Thanksgiving is plenty. I believe the current start and end dates for the fall and spring semesters are just fine and are fairly congruent with my schedule. I also think that the current Welcome Week scheme is fine--when I was a freshman, I was not interested in the Welcome Week activities, so I was just ready for classes to get started to I would have something to do. Thank you for asking for our opinions on this matter!  
Thank you for asking our opinions on these topics!

Please just leave the schedule the way it is. Students and faculty need the break in October, not at the end of November when the semester is almost over. Also, the Thursday start date works well. I see absolutely no need to change it.

During my years at UCA we've already tried beginning classes on Mondays. I found it unhelpful; my experience is that for students and faculty one class meeting the first week (that is, Thursday and Friday) followed by a weekend to digest the new semester is a much better system. Thank you!

I honestly do not mind either way, as having any type of break is grand. However, making Thanksgiving break a full week would definitely give students who must travel far distances more time with their families. I, personally, like the two day Fall Break and wouldn't mind going 2 extra days to have both the Fall Break AND a full week of Thanksgiving Break. If this isn't an option, omitting Fall Break altogether and making Thanksgiving Break a full week would be the better option.

Definitely do NOT start the school year on the same day as Conway Public Schools.

I'm not sure why this is being considered, however, it is likely to benefit one specific group as it doesn't seem like a larger problem campus wide. I don't think that's a good reason.

Fall Break is a MUCH needed respite in the middle of the semester. Thanksgiving Break happens at the end of the semester. We get back from it and typically have one week of classes (minus Study Day) and a week of finals. I need two days to get caught up in the middle of the semester MUCH more than I need an entire week two weeks before we go on Winter Break. The students do too. By Thanksgiving they are too far gone to have that week be of any benefit to their classes. If Thanksgiving fell earlier in the semester, I would support an entire week.

Eliminating Fall Break and adding those 2 days to extend the Thanksgiving break to a full week will be a good potential change to the UCA class schedule. By starting on Monday, it will also allow the semester to end 3 days earlier than normal, which will make up for starting at the beginning of the week instead of Thursday. It will also allow students more time to get the needed materials for their classes before classes are in session. I believe changing the classes start date to a Monday instead of

Thursday will not hurt students and the extended Thanksgiving break will probably benefit students more, especially those who plan vacations with family and friends around that time or are from out of town and can spend more time with their families for the holidays when they visit home.

I like having fall break when it coincides with public school breaks, but this year it did not. I do not feel strongly about this issue either way.

Is this simply a matter of preference or are there other motivating factors?  
full week break would be an excellent opportunity for preparing final exams and finishing projects.

We need fall break. It's imperative to have a short break to regroup. I was in the hospital for fall break which limited the time I had to miss for classes. Without fall break this semester I would have been very behind in classes. In other semesters I have greatly appreciated a short recess of classes to regroup and catch a breath.

The biggest single calendar improvement I could see for the fall semester is adding a second week of classes after the Thanksgiving break. As it currently stands there is not enough class time between Thanksgiving and final exams to cover anything of substance. Students (and some faculty) feel the semester is over at Thanksgiving and they are not necessarily wrong.

Students look forward to ANY kind of break that we can get. PLEASE don't take our fall break away. And having school start on a monday instead of Thursday would mean that we start lecture the first week of school already. It's too soon! Give us the first week to just chill and settle in and then we'll start our actual school work the next week.

As a student who is also a parent, I think it would be great to be home the entire week with my children. This means I won't have to find a babysitter. I don't think that the two days should be pulled from our Fall Break. As students, we need those couple of days to take a break from school. My semesters are pretty stressful and I really need those two days to get away from school. Everyone needs mental health days. Please don't take those away.

I prefer the space and periodical breaks throughout the semester then to have one long week break, which ultimately results in exams being right before or right after those breaks anyway

I would like fall break to remain as scheduled. I think incremental breaks within the semester help relieve stress for students and are needed breaks for them. I also think that no break between labor day and thanksgiving is too long of a time for students not to be able to go home. Some students live 3+ hours away and just a weekend is not enough time for them to go home and return to campus and have an enjoyable time.

I found fall break incredibly beneficial to my mental well being. The break, even if only two days, helped me to regroup from the stress and maintained my confidence in my studies.

If we keep the semester starting on Thursday, then that could count as the two days for fall break and we would have to get rid of it to add the two days to thanksgiving break

Starting the school year on a Thursday allows many classes to have a "syllabus day" where the expectations are addressed clearly. This also allows students like myself to have the weekend to properly prepare for school and buy needed supplies. I think syllabus day is a very important day for students.

Students need fall break to have a "breather" from their classes. Lots of students use this time to get caught up on studying, sleep, and go home for the first time all semester. If fall break was taken away, I believe stress levels of students would increase across campus because mid semester is when classes start really requiring study hours, papers, etc. having those two days really help to provide the opportunity to rest if needed, or to study and get in good standing with their academics.

While I understand that eliminating fall break in order to compensate for a full week for Thanksgiving is a good choice in regards to the 2 extra days, I don't think that fall break should be eliminated. People look forward to fall break, and it provides a short time of relief for many students to relax for a few days before going right back to school work. Yes, the longing for fall break would graduate out of the university, but I think it should stay. I see it as a positive aspect to the semester. Although, I also see how making Thanksgiving break a week long just like Spring break is also adds uniformity.

College produces a lot of stress. I'd appreciate it if we kept things as is. I prefer having more little breaks than one long break that we have to spend months waiting for without any relief. Full week for thanksgiving. Fall break still in affect. Start semester on Monday to make up days missed in thanksgiving.

Thursday and Friday classes are already negatively impacted by the fall break, Thanksgiving break, and study day the last Friday of the semester. For classes that meet once a week, students miss vital instruction time.

Fall break being moved to Thanksgiving week makes a lot of sense to me. I do however feel that Staff should be included in the Fall break along with the student and faculty.

While I understand the thought process, I think there is a large benefit to starting on Thursday. It eliminates the stress of diving into the semester right away and allows for a smoother transition overall. If more opportunities are desired to help new students, the options can still be offered when class is not yet started.

Also, fall break is very important. It is necessary to have breaks positioned strategically throughout the year to eliminate too much stress and fatigue. I fear that lengthening Thanksgiving break would make no difference, as the time is too far away. Students would be too stressed and may not last until then. More breaks is a much more positive schedule for maintaining proper mental health.

The Fall break is helpful for mental breaks. During the fall semester, it is a welcome reprieve from the rigors of the semester. Thanksgiving break is less of a break because it is right before finals and the end of the semester. That time of the semester is a mad dash to finish papers and projects, and to study for finals. While this proposed change will not affect me, it is one of my favorite aspects about being a bear.

It would be far more productive to start UCA the week AFTER local schools start. There is already not enough time between when the kids go back and when school starts.

Eliminating fall break would make my semester more stressful. Having breaks at different times allows me to re-energize. If we only had Thanksgiving break, then I would not have a real chance to calm down and refocus my attention to the most important matters in my life. I have a habit of working really, really hard and draining myself, but breaks are my chance to break the cycle. They are really important to me.

Because Thanksgiving break is so close to the end of the semester, it doesn't make sense to extend it to a week. A break at mid term is sorely needed for both students and faculty. I would like to extend the fall break to at least 3 days and eliminate study day. I would also be ok with extending finals week to accommodate more time off during the school year.

The proposed changes just make things cleaner. The only issue I see is that we would be off for a full week at Thanksgiving, then back for a week or two, then Christmas. Those last two weeks would be hard to focus.

None of the above is as important as (in my opinion): My STRONGEST belief / contention would be to START FALL SEMESTER LATER, on the Tuesday after Labor Day.

Do not do this. Things are perfect as they are. Eliminating the fall break would be stressful and mean we will be in school until November without a break after midterms.

Going to class for a partial week is more helpful than missing a full week (in regards to fall and Thanksgiving break) for my major. For big projects, it helps with staying on track.

There was nothing in the survey about starting the SPRING semester on a MONDAY. Currently, Freshman orientation has no affect on Spring; therefore giving no reason to begin classes on Thursday.

Approximately 15 years ago, UCA's academic calendar was cut by 2 full weeks (10 days) per semester, from 17 to 15 weeks. A Fall break of 2 days was added; study days (2) were added and a few years later 1 more day was added to Thanksgiving break. Those actions, combined, reduced the UCA academic schedule a total of 25 days, making UCA's academic calendar the shortest of all state institutions of higher learning (this was my research project). I will add that tuition, fees, room and board were increased - students got less for more \$\$\$\$. When a representative of ADHE was asked if there is a minimum number of days required for AR institutions of higher learning, the answer was "None, unless a student has a required number due to Veteran's benefits."

So why the big deal about Thursday vs. Monday?

Having a fall break; along with a Thanksgiving break are both beneficial when it comes to catching up on homework and/or studying and spending time with friends and family when most work in their spare time.

The students need a break in the middle of the semester, not near the end.

Thanksgiving is too close to the end of the semester.

Who would do the additional scheduling for welcome week. Rather than Sunday move in through Wednesday (4 days) it would be Sunday - Sunday (8 days). The students would need to be kept busy.

What do other schools do?

I believe we should start on a Thursday because many people aren't ready to take on the course load. The first two days are to get reacquainted with a class room setting and having a weekend makes it less stressful than jumping into course work the first week. Fall break does not need to be eliminated. We are exhausted. Many people work on weekends, and those two days could be counted as the first two days they have had off of both school and work in a while. Thanksgiving break needs to be extended for travel and mental health reasons. I use thanksgiving break as a time to finish up all of my final papers and don't even get a chance to relax because it's so short and I have so much work for school that I cannot do without a break since I am an active student in rigorous classes. I propose that we take away two days from Christmas break in order to make up for those two days of thanksgiving. We all just need smaller breaks within the semesters rather than huge summer or Christmas breaks. I also wouldn't be opposed to starting a week earlier in the summer if it was a Thursday and Friday we started on.

LONG LIVE FALL BREAK LONG LIVE SYLLABUS THURSDAY

Um moving the first day of class to match public schools will just cause more traffic problems like we dont have enough. And really you want to take away our fall break we need that. It's needed. I don't want two more days to spend with family during the holidays. I'll skip class or something if I need to leave. Don't ake away fall break!

I like having a small break each month of the semester. So, no matter what I'd like Fall Break to stay in place. I don't find it necessary to have a week for Thanksgiving, but I do see the benefit for other students.

I think the breaks should stay the same but the school would benefit greatly if semesters started on Monday. It makes the feel more even.

I think UCA needs to keep all breaks the way they are and do not change them. Most of us enjoy having small breaksevery now and then instead of one big break because we are getting that for winter anyways.

I think moving the first day of the Fall semester to be on the fourth Monday of August would be an improvement to our school schedule because it would harmonize it with that of many other colleges and universities across the US.

I am against all of these proposed changes, especially the Monday start. The motivation of having the freshmen here earlier for more welcome week activities seems to be a masquerade for being able to charge the freshmen for more cafeteria and dorm use.

Starting on Thursday is a way of breaking the students back into a regular routine from them being off. Starting a full week of school may be too much for them to deal with.

A full week of holiday break around Thanksgiving would be nice; since some may have to travel a distance to return home for the holidays.

Fall break is similar to Spring break. Giving them a break since it would have been since Labor Day before

they had one; and will be November before they get another one; is a long period of time. So Fall break is necessary! Some may get home sick!

I would be against shortening the fall semester, It could be lengthened by adding Monday through Wednesday of the first week. It is already a shortened semester as it is presently structured.

A lot of people like to travel during Thanksgiving and I think making the break a whole week will make it easier for college students to go along with their families.

It would be fantastic if the two days from fall break were the two days added onto Thanksgiving. It would give students much more time and a greater ability to go home.

I like how everything is now

I think the schedule is great the way it is now!

"I think extending the UCA Thanksgiving break (for a full week of break) would be an improvement to the fall semester schedule IF the two days that need to be added to the fall semester calendar would result in eliminating the fall break." This question makes no sense. By adding two days to fall break you eliminate fall break?

Classes starting on Thursdays is so helpful. It is great to have an introduction day before starting the full week! extend Thanksgiving break to a full week even if it means eliminating the fall break OR add two days to the semester.

I feel that the breaks and class starting on Thursday are good for helping Freshmen transition!

I began my first faculty job at a campus where there was no fall break and a week for Thanksgiving, as is being suggested here. It was TERRIBLE, and about halfway through my 10 years there, the university elected to change the schedule to the same one UCA has now (a fall break in October plus a shortened T. break). Why did we all hate the original schedule? First, waiting till T'giving to get some breathing space left everyone exhausted; depression rates for everyone went up and the counseling center was overwhelmed; students began cutting Friday classes fairly regularly, and faculty were tempted to as well. Second, a long T. break = 9 straight days away (2 weekends plus a work week). This means it was terribly hard to come back to campus for the last week of classes and a week of exams. Everyone had this feeling (students especially) that the term was essentially over at T'giving, and was reluctant to give their full attention to remaining lessons, research paper and project deadlines, and final exams. Third, without a fall break, faculty often found it very difficult to schedule research travel that wouldn't force them to miss classes--basically, there could be no research travel at all if you were a conscientious teacher. Plus, the long T. break fell during a week when conferences weren't being held and libraries were shortening hours, so again—extremely hard to get research done. To re-cap: that school changed its calendar to one similar to what we now have at UCA, and for the next 5 years of my time there, everyone was MUCH happier. Please DO NOT do away with Fall Break!

I believe starting the semester on the same day as local schools would be beneficial to employees and non-trad students, as it would help with child care issues. Also, if the Spring semester could start later, it would help with processing time in student service offices.

In my opinion, eliminating fall break could be justified since students receive a break for Thanksgiving already.

A week for Thanksgiving would be nice but could really disrupt the flow of the semester, with a few days of classes and finals afterward. I'm in favor of it overall but I'd have to see it in practice to be really sold.

I am also an alumni for both undergrad and grad school here and thought about this from the prospective of both a student and a staff member.

Many students drop out between Move-in day and classes on Thursday because they get home-sick. If we give them a whole week before getting busy with classes, it's likely that will only increase.

If Thanksgiving is extended, campus housing would have to close. Right now, the halls don't close Thanksgiving or Fall break. But if it was a whole week, they would have to close, meaning students would have to pay if they have no where to go for Thanksgiving.

Please do not remove Fall Break. It is much needed after a crazy August and September!!!!

What has not been addressed, how will this affect staff? IE, will staff days off remain Thanksgiving day and the Friday by Governor proclamation, or, will we receive additional days off?

Changing fall break to a Monday and Tuesday might be a good idea.

Love the way it is now. Starting classes on a Thursday is wonderful to get your feet wet with your classes, have a weekend to rest/prepare and start full time on Monday. Fall break is a much needed break during that time and Thanksgiving is fine as a 3 day holiday.

I would be ok with adding 2 days but also keeping both fall break and extending thanksgiving

There's nothing wrong with the schedule as it is now

I need these smaller, spaced out breaks to keep me from getting too burnt out. It is good to have a couple of days off every now and then to de-stress.

I feel strongly that fall break is beneficial to students' well-being. It is more beneficial to keep fall break than to have a full week of Thanksgiving break. I have attended colleges that have used both schedules, and having a fall break is a better schedule than having a full week of Thanksgiving break.

I think starting classes on Thursday gives us the chance to start with an introduction to the course and then jump into the course content on the next Monday/Tuesday. Thanksgiving break is so close to the end of the semester that a week is not needed. I like having Fall Break and then a few days at Thanksgiving. There would be no long weekend from the first weekend in September until the last week in November if Fall Break is eliminated. I think it is nice to regroup in the middle of the semester and have a long weekend.

It would be nice if staff were to get off the whole week to spend with our families, especially those of us with school-aged children, without a reduction in pay and without having to use comp/sick/vaca time.

Look, I've been on the campus calendar committee, and it doesn't matter what anybody thinks. Somebody behind the scenes makes the decisions anyway, faculty input be damned.

Any way that adds time for me to spend with my family is a great plan. We would get a week off to rest ourselves before finals.

This issue came up several years ago. Faculty were opposed to this and Faculty Senate objected. Why is this even being discussed again? Clearly the provost's office wants this change and keeps pushing it. There is no need to make such a change. The fall semester should not start earlier unless the administration is prepared to pay faculty an extra week of salary to compensate for the lost preparation time. I am not going to spend uncompensated time getting ready for class while my children are still out of school.

Fall Break provides an opportunity to students and faculty to catch up and recharge for the second half of the semester. The lack of such a break in the spring makes the spring semester more difficult. Starting on Thursday is the best way to ease into classes without being immediately overloaded. Moving the starting dates will be harder for non current residents of arkansas. I am from california and the adjustment and moving in and going to class the next day will be extremely hard. Thursday start dates allow not only students like myself but even current residents of surrounding areas an easier less stressful transition into the college life.

I think fall break is needed as a small break for students and teachers and should not be eliminated.

Hi, I think we should cut the fall break days to 2 to 3 and give a full week for the thanks giving!!

I think a Monday start would be a positive change for the students on campus. Many skip the first two days of class because it's only two days and starting on a Monday may encourage more students to attend the first week.

I only support the Monday start date if it is after the local public schools start classes. I don't want parents who work or attend classes at UCA to miss the first day of school with their children because we start classes before their children.

I am strongly opposed to eliminating fall break. For the faculty who teach freshmen classes it is a needed break after reporting midterm grades.

I am ok with extending the fall semester further into December to accommodate the changes discussed



here. It may be better for students to have more than 4 days after Thanksgiving break to finish their fall classwork.

"Extending the UCA Thanksgiving break (for a full week of break)" - does that include staff? Would all of UCA be closed during that week? That should have been more clear in this survey.

It is hard to travel with so few days for Thanksgiving. The break is too close to Thanksgiving to make any major difference to me. It is a pointless break.

I love starting on Thursdays because it helps to ease in to the schedule. Starting on Monday jumps right in and is a long week.

It is better to have the breaks dispersed throughout the semester rather than all at once. Also, it is completely silly to have Thanksgiving break be a whole week when 2 weeks later you have a month off. Fall break is necessary for my sanity.

If it was up to me I'd rather just shorten the whole semester by two weeks, make the semester more like a 10 week Summer 1-2 session.

For the Spring semester, it would be nice if we got out on President's Day instead of MLK day. If Spring Break is analogous to Thanksgiving Break, President's Day would be analogous to Fall Break; February/March w/o any breaks at all is really rough, thank the heavens for snow days when they happen.

I definitely don't think either of those things should happen. Fall break is my only break from the sanity after midterms.

As a staff member, the changes may affect our traffic flow but not to the extent that it would impede or improve our office.

I like how it is. I would hate for any changes.

I think anything that can be done to make the UCA schedule more closely resemble the primary schools' schedules would benefit students and parents. Also, Spring as a week long spring break. So, if students were off for a week, the week of Thanksgiving week, that would be Fall Break and more students could travel home that lived out of state, etc.

Waiting until Thanksgiving to have a Break would make the Fall, as opposed to the Spring, Semester even more of an exhausting marathon than it already is. My suggestion is that to better distribute the days of the week missed through breaks, the Fall Break be on a Monday and Tuesday, not Thursday and Friday.

On the current schedule, we miss 1 Monday, 0 Tuesdays, 1 Wednesday, 2 Thursdays, and 2 Fridays.

Not at all an even distribution!

I think starting school on a Thursday gives the students a weekend to get their school necessities and schedules organized and worked out to prepare for a positive and productive semester. I think eliminating fall break would hurt students more than help them. It is at a key point in the semester when motivation is lacking and gives us time to recoup and finish the semester strong.

One of the best things about our schedule is the Thursday start date. It allows both students and faculty to ease into the semester.

Starting on a Thursday is beneficial because you get to go to your TUES/THURS classes and MWF classes and get the syllabus days out of the way before starting the semester. I don't think it's a good idea to take away fall break. I know that long weekend is much needed for many students.

Unless the full week of break for Thanksgiving was also extended to staff then it really makes no difference to us. I think eliminating Fall Break and adding more time to the Thanksgiving Break would be great!!

I think it is important that we add instructional days to the semester by implementing a Monday start. Since public schools in Conway are closed the week of Thanksgiving, it would be an advantage for many to have the same schedule. Even Wednesday off before Thanksgiving would be an advantage for families affected by both schedules.

I like the way it is now. I almost wish we had a 2 day break in the Spring like we do in the Fall. Also, starting on a Monday would be terrible, in my opinion. I like the Thursday and Friday syllabus days to ease us in, and it gives a good amount of time to change classes before you've missed too much if you somehow got in the wrong one. Thanks!

For people that do not live on campus, starting school the same day as local public schools would not be a good thing because traffic issues would be outrageous. Already on the first day of classes people feel lost, but at least the people starting new public schools have it figured out by the point when college starts, so it's only college students hectic actions instead college students, parents, and high school students hectic actions.

Fall break is extremely beneficial when it comes to reducing stress and being able to take a mental break, the end of the semester is when it really gets hard, and taking that away from students could increase mental instability (regardless how minor).

Thanksgiving break would be nicer if it were a week long instead of three days, but if that means taking away fall break or starting on the Monday that public school starts, it's not worth it.

Maybe if school started the week before on a Thursday, then students could be out of class by the first week of December and get the full month home with family while also extending the Thanksgiving break. The thought of that initially seems to suck, but if it were to actually happen, in the end students would appreciate that more than losing Fall Break or starting on the same Monday as public schools.

Thanksgiving break is very near to the end of the semester as it is so the students will very shortly after Thanksgiving break have a whole month off. Fall break being around a month before Thanksgiving break is great because the students are really starting to get burned out at that point in the semester and it is nice to give them a couple of days to refresh and get caught up. This is the point in the semester that many students realize how much more work they need to put into their classes so it comes at a nice time. At Thanksgiving it is already too late for them to make any major improvements to their grades. As far as the beginning of the semester, I really like that it starts on Thursday so that there is really just one day that classes meet at the beginning of the semester before really getting content heavy. For so many students (particularly freshmen), this is the first time that they have been on their own. So the light start to classes gives them the opportunity to get the excitement out of their systems and ease into classes. My number one priority is student success. I honestly don't care when the breaks are but I think we will feel it in the grades and in student motivation. I don't think that changing the schedule will be good for them for the reasons that I shared. I would rather you move the first day to a Monday than to get rid of fall break for a longer Thanksgiving break. I really feel strongly about it. The students will suffer.

Thanksgiving break is too close to Winter break to take away Fall break in order to make it longer.

I think starting on a Thursday instead of a Monday is beneficial to students because we can gradually get into the school routine. Also, I think 2 breaks are better than 1.

A full week for thanksgiving would be preferred, whether that adds two days at the end or takes away fall break doesn't matter

I think that if you make UCA start on Monday to match the elementary and high schools, it would mess up students and professors that have kids getting to take their kids to the first day of school. This is a big deal for most parents and UCA should not take that away. I think we should take away fall break and have longer for Thanksgiving. Science classes have labs and they want their different lab classes to be on the same schedule. Having two days off one week and three days off another week just doesn't work for those classes. One whole week off would help professors who have lab classes on Monday and Friday for example not have two extra weeks of lab for Monday that they didn't have for their Friday group or to cancel two weeks worth of labs to keep them on schedule.

If we did extend the thanksgiving break I don't think there is a need to add 2 additional days to our schedule; because normally classes get canceled and or students don't show up for that one day of the week course anyway.

If UCA decides to move to a Monday start, it is very important that this start be one full week after the local school system starts. Many faculty and staff have children in the Conway schools, and it would not lead to a calm and ordering start to the semester for anyone if they were the same day.

I think starting the semester on a Thursday is a good thing. That way, we get a small taste of all of our classes (MWF and TR classes each), give professors a chance to have a "syllabus day," and then dive in on the following Monday. That first Thursday and Friday have always been low-stress for me personally and help me ease into the beginning of the semester.

I think it is extremely necessary for college classes to begin on a Thursday rather than a Monday. College is a huge step in all young adult's lives. It is stressful enough as it is and would be far too overwhelming to jump right into your first full week of classes. Beginning on Thursday allows students to get a feel for each

of their classes and then take the following weekend to have a sort of rehabilitation time and to prepare themselves for the upcoming week. Please do not change this for students. It will be too much for incoming freshmen especially.

Fall break isn't long anyways so we might as well get rid of it so we can have a full week off for Thanksgiving. This allows more students to have more time to travel back home, be with their families a little longer, and actually enjoy the Holiday. It would be worth it to eliminate fall break.

Start classes on Monday!

I still want a fall break!

I'm okay with having two more class days if I can have a full week off for Thanksgiving!!

I think that thanksgiving break should be a week, because of the out of state students who haven't seen their families in months, so then they have more time with their family. But also I think that we should have a small break (possibly 1 class off) after midterms, so then students can have a small mental break and get their minds off of midterms and back to their classes work that is being taught

The music department needs a Thursday start: Monday-Wednesday is an important period of time where we do in-house auditions, orientation, advising, etc. Thursday start is perfect. We also need some kind of mid-semester break--- eliminating Fall break is a really bad idea. No one is looking to shorten spring break.... why eliminate fall break? We need a mid-semester break that is AT LEAST 2 days. Matching Conway Public Schools calendar is NOT a priority for me and my family.

Add two days to Thanksgiving break and make up for them at the beginning of the fall semester. Add a day to fall break and make up for it at the beginning of the fall semester. Then we would start the fall semester on a Monday and keep all our breaks plus some.

I think that moving Thanksgiving Break to a full week is a good idea because going for only two days before break seems somewhat pointless, however it should not be done at the expense of fall break. Fall break provides many students with a much needed break from school and allows us to recharge a little for the second half of the semester.

I believe that small, spread out breaks down more good for students than one or two long breaks. Thanksgiving break is already so close to the end it does not make sense to make it even longer. As for the first day of classes, starting on Thursday works better for the students as a full week from the start is a bit harsh. I like the idea of having a full week of Thanksgiving break, but do not want to get rid of Fall break either. I am fine with adding two additional days of classes, so we can have a full week of Thanksgiving break, and still have Fall break.

Speaking as a student who has started all four years of school at UCA on the Thursday after Welcome Week, I think it allows everyone to attend classes one time before it really sinks in that school has started. I know from the orientation point of view, it is tiring, but SO worth it because Thursday and Fridays are the perfect days (directly after Welcome Week activities) for us to wear our Orange and continue to help students while we are fresh on their brains from the previous days. We work hard to build those relationships, and I think by waiting through the weekend, it may be more overwhelming for freshman students to take on a full week rather than two days at a time.

For upperclassmen, there is not much change in the first couple of days. For me, I have field and class split evenly, so it just took longer for me to start each class, but I certainly form my opinion with the freshman in mind!

### DON'T TAKE AWAY FALL BREAK

The fall break seems to me like an essential break in the middle of the semester. I would not want to give it up in exchange for a longer break at Thanksgiving. A week-long break right before the final 4 days of the semester would be detrimental to students' progress.

Housing already has a hard enough time trying to prep for student move in. Moving everything up will shorten and hurt our students more than many people know. (not like they care anyway)

For graduate students, some programs are Tuesday/Thursday only, I think this would only benefit those with M-F schedules.

After going on 5 years of college I feel that extending the thanksgiving break to a week and cutting out fall break would be a terrible choice. I find that having those few days every month or so allows for me to catch up on any work i may be behind on and get ahead after mid terms. Putting all of the days off during thanksgiving week does not allow for any catching up to be done before almost the end of the semester. (There's only one week of classes after thanksgiving this semester then finals.) Also there are many of us who work full or part time while attending and those days off spread out throughout the months allows us to pick up extra hours to help make ends meet.

It would positively affect my work as it will allow those of us who are 12 month to get ready for the close of the fall semester and beginning of the spring semester. As it will be a three day week for us, we would be able to get more completed in the three days we work without faculty and students on campus.

I think the way that this Fall Semester ran was perfect. I enjoy the breaks we get and starting on Thursday.

I am in favor of extending Thanksgiving Break to a full week and keeping the two-day Fall Break. I would much rather see the two extra days moved to the end of the semester to compensate for the extra break time for Thanksgiving.

That said, if the two days could be compensated for at the front end by starting on Monday rather than Thursday, I would be in favor of that as well. That would also, actually, add a third day to the calendar that could be used to extend Fall Break to three days rather than two.

Fall break is needed during the semester to help the students. They need the break to refocus on the remaining portion of the semester.

A full week at Thanksgiving would help because attendance in classes is spotty at best. Students go home to be with family in and out of state. My week of instruction is disrupted due to low attendance during that week.

Starting classes on Thursday is good because I go over my syllabus and then after the weekend we start our lessons to kick off the semester.

I want my fall break and will NOT be able to survive or pass my classes without it. I hate the idea of starting back classes on a Monday, let us keep the first Thursday/Friday as a great syllabus day and then we are able to come back the following Monday fresh and ready for a great semester.

Fall break is more important to me than a full Thanksgiving week. The various breaks throughout the semester helps with stress and anxiety overloads.

Include daycare on campus would be an excellent improvement, for staff, and students. As a Non-Traditional student and mom of a 7 months old baby, finding a daycare close to campus has been very complicated.

Day-care on campus is conciliation for work/student moms

PLEASE DO NOT GET RID OF THURSDAY START OR FALL BREAK I WILL DIE

With this being in my second year here at UCA I believe that fall break is something that every student on campus looks forward to, it's a reminder to myself that I can finish the semester and to take a deep breath! It's very thoughtful for a University to acknowledge students struggle and show them that it's ok to be stressed and Fall break shows that they care!

Eliminating Fall Break is not a good idea because as a college student it is important to get rest and be able to relax. If Fall Break was taken away there would be no time for students to do this. That would be a straight 10 weeks of classes which would make it hard to stay focused. I enjoy having two separate breaks. I think starting classes on Monday is a bad idea because the two days of classes are great to start off the semester. These two days are perfect for professors to go over syllabi and great for freshman to get used to having classes.

The fall break must be kept. If we wait until Thanksgiving for a break, students and faculty alike will suffer for it and be burned out. I would much rather have two days added and keep both breaks while extending the Thanksgiving break to a full week. I do not cancel my classes on that Monday and Tuesday, but I have heard from many students that other classes are canceled or at least made optional for attendance. This would solve that problem, as well.

I need fall break!!!! Also, one of my favorite things about UCA is that classes start on Thursdays. This allows you to get back in the swing of things, before going to school for a full week.

I really needed a fall break to catch up on homework and it was really nice to see my family for a few days. Also, I like that classes start on a Thursday. I can go to one of each class and go to Walmart

for all my supplies over the weekend

It is very difficult to answer these questions without more context. As an academic advisor, we use the time between Monday and Thursday to create schedules for incoming students, to rearrange schedules for transfer, international, and to register students who have not registered for a variety of reasons. We also use this time to change schedules for students in transitionals, and for those who did not pass a class in the prior term if we were unable to complete this before leaving for Christmas break. In regards to the Thanksgiving Week, would staff positions like Advisors be able to take advantage of the week off, or would we be required to work, like during the current Spring and Fall Breaks?

Fall break is very important to faculty and students. It's a great time to catch up and re-group. It's hard going without a break between Labor Day and Thanksgiving.

Especially since the vast majority of our students are in-state, I do not see a reason to increase Thanksgiving break to a week because of travel scheduling.

We currently have a student orientation process that has been recognized by its peers as outstanding and it facilitated by mostly volunteer student staff. At similar sized universities orientation student staff are paid and therefore a significant expensive. A move to Monday start would make that orientation process nearly impossible without moving to paid staff. I think it would be disastrous to move to a Monday start, but if that is the direction we go then we need to also consider those added budgetary needs. I think the fall semester should start three weeks earlier in order for students to be off school by the time the Thanksgiving holiday comes around. It's very hard to enjoy Thanksgiving when I have to worry about studying for exams that are right around the corner. I feel like I miss out on family experiences by making my education a priority.

I highly enjoy starting the new school year on a Thursday. It makes for an easy start back into the school year. I have always enjoyed fall break. It helps break up the semester a bit. But, I can also see how it would be nice to have the full week at Thanksgiving.

I think fall break is an important break, especially for freshmen who are adjusting to being at college. While I do think having a week for thanksgiving would be good if we added the two days somewhere else, I don't think it's worth the cost of losing fall break. I also think we should keep starting classes on a Thursday, not Monday. That way we can go to all our TR/MWF classes once each and then go get the supplies and stuff needed over the weekend, put all our dates from the syllabi into our calendars, and mentally prepare for the semester ahead.

The issue with moving the first day of classes from Thursday to Monday is that freshmen get a chance to experience two days of college and then have a break before experiencing a full week of college. It makes it less stressful.

Thanksgiving break would be wonderful to have a full week because most people skip the Monday and Tuesday anyway and not much lecturing/teaching happens during that week.

I do not think that fall break should be eliminated because it is the time for students to relax before

Thanksgiving. If we do not have a fall break, then it is just a consecutive few months of school, and students will want to leave campus to because of the stress of classes.

Everyone I know (myself included) really appreciates having fall break! It is a much welcome break and really allowed me to catch up on work for a lot of classes.

I think a full day off for Thanksgiving allows students to make actual plans to travel to see family. Classes staying on a Thursday is better because it gets us back into the routine slowly rather than dropping students into a full week. Fall Break is not necessary.

Fall break is the only long weekend we get in the middle of fall semester. I would much rather have fall break than the entire week off for thanksgiving.

If the semester were to be changed to start on a Monday, could it not be moved up to the 3rd Monday, adding extra days to the schedule. By doing so, we could keep fall break AND extend Thanksgiving.

Also, scheduling the first day of the semester to match public schools in the area does not sound like a good idea. Imagine the traffic. That also affects parents who have children in school and want to take them on the first day but are also college students.

I believe having classes start on a Thursday assist the transition of new students, especially freshmen. It allows them to have a weekend to adjust and get used to campus life.

I believe fall break to be an important landmark in the semester that allows a time to relax as midterms approach and allow students that live farther away to visit home.

While having thanksgiving break a full week would be nice, that would be a full week of not being in class. This would disrupt the learning process harshly, because that's a long time to not be in class so close to finals week.

Would staff be able to have a "real" break at the same time? (without having to tap into vacation / comp time?)



Issue 1 - Moving from Thursday to Monday: Pushing back the starting day of classes is, at first appearances, an appealing move---students get an extra two days to acclimate to campus life and attend academic preparatory workshops/seminars and faculty get an extra two days to prepare lecture material. However, if we acknowledge the human condition of Procrastination, I believe we can reasonably hypothesize that these two days would go lesser-utilized than hoped for. Firstly, as current faculty are already ingrained with a +2 day-schedule, these first two days are often used as a "syllabus day"---especially in freshmen-level classes, the very group this change is allegedly attempting to assist. What this translates to is freshmen-level faculty (for lack of a more respectful term) having to push back ALL of their lectures by one day OR incorporating some or all of their day-two material into the first day and therefore affecting all subsequent days. This will be easy for some and frustrating for others. Also, it is important to realize that this will affect TR classes disproportionately from MWF classes: MWF classes would lose up to 50 minutes of lecture time, or 2.38%; TR classes would lose 75 minutes, or 3.57%. If we assume that \*most\* freshmen classes will use the first day to cover the syllabus and no more, then, unless these two days are replaced elsewhere in the semester (which, I imagine, they won't), TR classes will receive about 1% less instruction than MWF classes. Additionally, by having these two extra days, students and professors alike gain a psychological advantage that helps buffer a student's (or professor's) "false start" that without a buffer day can lead to the first week of classes being psychologically perceived as "off" by not fully engaging with students, thus leading to the entire first week's-worth of material being impermanent. Finally, having a two day buffer helps cut some students a little slack if they are ill-prepared for the first day of classes, giving them the weekend to prepare for a full week of quality instruction.

Issue 2 - Starting when Local Schools Start: The only positive thing I can see at this time with changing the start date to the same as local schools is so that parents can drop all their kids off at their various schools on the same day. Oh wait---this is college, and the vast majority of parents do not drive their kids to college. (Pardon my hyperbolic humor...I simply find no reason to change the start date for college based on things that aren't related to college. Now if all colleges and universities in Arkansas decided to change their start dates to begin at the same time, THAT would be something to talk about! And I would actually be all for that....)

Issue 3 - Extending Thanksgiving Break: Like Issue 1 above, this appears like a good idea on the surface, especially considering the parallelism with spring break being an entire week. HOWEVER, one very important distinction to make between Thanksgiving break and spring break is where they fall in relation to finals week: spring break is more than four weeks away from finals week; Thanksgiving break is either ONE or TWO weeks away from finals week. Whereas with spring break students have ample time to recover from whatever material was unavoidably forgotten, one or two weeks is arguably \*not\* enough time for students to recenter after an entire week off of school (we all know students \*ought\* to be studying during this break but most will certainly \*not\* study as much as they should). Therefore, it is my position that, until Thanksgiving break is moved further away from finals week (separated by a minimum of three weeks), an entire week off be avoided.

Issue 4 - Eliminating Fall Break: As this issue is coupled with extending Thanksgiving break and my position is that Thanksgiving break remain as it is for those reasons listed above, the issue of eliminating fall break becomes moot for me.

Proposition 1 - Moving Spring Break: While I have the opportunity, I would like to propose, however informally, that spring break be intentionally scheduled to coincide with most other Arkansas universities. Arkansas is a small-town state, and many students have friends that attend different universities. From my recent experience as a student, I know many who would appreciate the opportunity to share spring break with friends from other universities.

Beginning "syllabus days" on a Thursday and Friday allows for the weekend to gather materials for classes. Most students who attend the "syllabus day" on a Monday will not be prepared with course materials in 48 hours by Wednesday.

Also, something that should be considered is that Thanksgiving break is so close to Christmas break. It is nice to have a break in October, however students may need the 2 class days of Thanksgiving week to prep for finals. For example, this semester, those class days are crucial because finals are so early.

The current Thursday semester start results in throw-away days on the front end of the calendar followed by additional throw-away days, mid-semester, at fall break. Normalizing the calendar should benefit the lecture/lab/exam coursework relationship distributed over time.

I think fall break should be extended to a full week off the UCA students. International Student Orientation is negatively impacted by the Thursday start date.

A full week off at Thanksgiving would allow families to travel, while a short Fall break and a short Thanksgiving break are not as useful. I would prefer we start on a Monday (the Monday that would normally be the first Monday of the semester).

As a Junior at UCA, I strongly disagree with eliminating the Fall Break we have here because that break is crucial to all students here to catch up on assignments and prepare for exams. I would like to have an extended Thanksgiving break but if that meant eliminating the fall break, I would prefer to keep the fall break and Thanksgiving schedule we have now.

The current Thanksgiving Break hardly gives students enough time with their families. Therefore, it should be a full week but taking away a fall break would add another problem. Students and professors look forward to that break and many use it to get rejuvenated from school. Students and Professors alike need a mental break from all of the stresses that college adds on a person. That is why I think starting a few days earlier in the semester would be a better idea rather than taking away fall break.

I don't really think it needs to change. I enjoy getting more than one break, even if they are not as long. Several short breaks is more refreshing than just one long break

I like the first week of classes not being a full week so it is not so overwhelming. I love the idea of cancelling fall break and doing a full week off at Thanksgiving!

I like having fall break! I know it comes out the same if those two days were during the week of thanksgiving but it's nice to have more shorter breaks instead of one long one.

I think that having classes start on a Thursday is a positive thing. It gives students time to get settled/ re-settled into their dorm rooms and to get to know their roommates if they do not already. Students need fall break for mental health. Also if students get a full 9 days off for thanksgiving (1 week two weekends), it will be much harder for them to focus and be motivated to come back and finish the last 2-3 weeks of the semester. Also Christmas break is usually two weeks after thanksgiving break so there's really no need for that long of a break

I think changing Thanksgiving break to a full week would be a great improvement because some students do not live in the U.S. and it may take them longer to get home which makes them have to miss days before the break to do so. Also it would be good to have it for a full week so that we can spend time with family that we haven't seen in a while!

I really like fall break. Please don't take that away. Also, starting on a Thursday is nice because it gives us time to get all of our books and supplies in place before we actually start the class.

I'm both faculty AND student (phd program). These answers apply both to my permanent faculty status and my temporary student status.

Don't do this. You're killing me.

I think classes should start on a Thursday. I enjoy attending the two days of classes, because it allows me to attend my MWF classes and my Tuesday/Thursday classes with a break afterward to sort out the new environment. Also, I think we should have a full week for Thanksgiving break as well as the Fall break.

Fall break provides a necessary break around Midterms for students. We enjoy this break.

Having Thanksgiving be a week long break would be an awesome improvement. I would much rather start the semester earlier to make up these days rather than eliminate Fall Break. Fall Break is a nice breather in the semester. Starting 2 days earlier wouldn't have much of an impact.

We should only take off a whole week for Thanksgiving if we eliminate the Fall Break. It's absurd to

have two breaks.

just allow thanksgiving break to start that Monday like be honest when we go on break we as students will forget what we learn in class and it allows us to spend more time with our family and friends

I think we should think about the international students and other students who can't afford to go home for Thanksgiving. This would cause them to have to find their meals elsewhere, if at all possible, due to the eating locations closing for breaks.

I think we should have both fall break and thanksgiving break. It's nice to have two short breaks because it lets us sit back and relax a little bit. I also like starting classes on Thursday because it's a good way to ease back into school after being on a long break and it allows us to go to all of our classes as well.

I believe going until Thanksgiving without a break such as fall break will have a very negative effect on my schooling. I personally feel like I need that time to recuperate from the semester and being preparing for the next half.

Honestly, as faculty, I would prefer beginning the semester after local schools start. It is just too much for us all to go back to school/work at the same time. I know I would have felt the same way as a non-traditional student.

I think that moving the first day of fall semester is not the best idea. I feel that some students would have a lot of trouble taking in a full week as soon as they get here. Once they've experienced their first couple days they have time to sit down and think over their classes; what they like, what they don't, or if they should drop a class. It gives students, especially ones with a social disorder, to get their stuff together and not be bombarded with classes as soon as they arrive.

Plz don't take fall break. I need it for my sanity.

Fall break is necessary to have a break after midterms are over to keep the motivation we have to continue the semester.

I think starting on a Monday would be beneficial. I think that if we started a week earlier, that would allot for days available for breaks during the semester.

I think that Fall Break is a nice time, especially for freshmen, in order for everyone to take their time to catch their breath and get caught up on homework assignments if needed. I can see where the appeal to taking it away and making thanksgiving a full week off would be nice but I think that the schedule how it is set up now is more beneficial.

Fall break provides students with just a little bit of extra off days to take a breath, catch up on homework and refresh their minds for the second half of the semester. Taking Fall break away would cause students to have to continuously find motivation to last all the up until thanksgiving week -

The parking sucks. The food taste like it has no flavor. Maybe try to hire more professors who have a

varied of beliefs instead of ideology that line up only with liberal.

I like having classes start on Thursdays because it gives us time to get readjusted. I like Fall Break because it comes right when I need a break from school. Although I would like to have a full week off for Thanksgiving, I wouldn't want Fall Break eliminated.

If the first day of class was moved to Monday and we got a full week for thanksgiving break as well as our two day fall break, I wouldn't mind that. I would like to have a full week for thanksgiving, but not if I have to sacrifice BOTH moving the first day to Monday AND eliminating fall break. Thank you.

I think that the students NEED FALL BREAK and it serves an important purpose in providing them with a much-needed breather when they pace their papers, project assignments and mid-term exams. I do NOT think extending Thanksgiving break to a full week accomplishes the same objective and am strongly NOT in favor of doing this. Wednesday is enough (plus Thursday and Friday and the weekend).

Having the Thanksgiving break extend to a full week is a great idea and mirrors the Spring break. The two split breaks, Fall and Thanksgiving, should be consolidated into one full week.

We DO NOT need to change the start day from Thursday to Monday. Many students need that weekend after teachers explain the layout of the class to organize for the semester ahead. I would love for thanksgiving break to be extended more than keeping fall break, however fall break is very help to students to play catch up or become ahead of their class work. If there was a way to extended the semester into December rather than take away fall break, that would be amazing.

I like the idea of a Monday start, but the Monday should not be the same Monday K-12 students go back to school. Many faculty and staff have children and starting UCA classes the same day kids go back to school would be difficult. Additionally, having a work week after the K-12 students go back to school prior to the start of our classes would be very beneficial.

I like that we start courses on Thursday because it allows me to learn where my classes are and get introduction days out of the way. This leaves the next full week to be dedicated to the actual course material. I would like to have a full week for Thanksgiving. As an RA, we do not leave until everyone else does for break so this would give me more time to spend with my family.

Having a short break in mid-October is nice. Having a full week at Thanksgiving is too close to the Christmas holidays.

Thanksgiving occurs so late in the semester that taking an entire week off would negatively impact students performance on late exams (which) I give and final examinations. I'd favor holding classes on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

Also, the original fall breaks were on Monday and Tuesday. This was done to "average out" lost days in laboratory and studio courses.

I strongly agree with having a full week of welcome week as opposed to just 3 days. This will give students way more time to become accustomed to UCA. Students like me who are from small rural areas will most likely appreciate the extra time given to become familiar with the campus and the surrounding larger city.

I think adding two additional days at the end of the semester would be more beneficial than elimination fall break

I feel that the Fall break is very needed where it's at. I don't think we need an entire week off for Thanksgiving because school is almost out right after that. I don't think students would have motivation to finish strong if they had an entire week off for Thanksgiving and had to come finish 2 more weeks of school.

I believe that fall break is essential for those who are in graduate course work

The benefit of starting classes on a Thursday allows people who need to take care of last minute details before classes start to do so. It also makes an easier transition from summer to school with only a two day week to begin classes. Fall break is a nice breather in the middle of the semester and allows time to see family sooner than for just thanksgiving.

I think eliminating fall break would add a lot of stress to students on campus. Fall break is a much needed break for students. I do think adding extra time to Thanksgiving Break would be great, but I don't think taking time from Fall Break is the right answer.

Most of the UCA population is from fairly close in Arkansas and the 2 breaks separate the semester better; however, for those of us out of state or from further in Arkansas, pushing the breaks together into a week would be far more beneficial. Half of my break is currently spent traveling and I can only return home for one break. Also, it would be easier for professors to only lose our focus once each semester rather than twice in the fall due to breaks. In addition, the spring semester always feels longer compared to the fall semester, but if there was only one break in fall semester, too, neither semester would feel longer. Returning students from short distances in Arkansas will be the main resistance.

As for the first two days, they are always syllabus days anyway and shouldn't really count regardless. Everyone knows classes actually start the following Monday anyway unless it's an intense course.

#### DO NOT TAKE AWAY MY FALL BREAK

It is vital the we have fall break. Students need a refresher and I know from personal experience that if i did not have fall break, I would most likely be fried by thanksgiving. We have fall break because it reduces the suicide rate and depression rate of UCA students. I believe the time we have for fall and thanksgiving break are perfect and gives us a breath of fresh air. PLEASE DON'T CHANGE IT!!!! Why fix something that is not broken????

Moving the start to a Monday would make scheduling of class material easier.

It's all good.

You could add the two days we need to make Thanksgiving a full week to the beginning of the semester, making the first day at least a Tuesday, maybe a Monday. If it were Monday we could make Fall Break one more day. That would be amazing.

Fall break is very important because it allows students to take a break and reset. Eliminating this break would make it hard to get to thanksgiving.

I personally like the Thursday start. I use it as a soft start for my mathematics classes so as to now overwhelm students. A full week break around Thanksgiving gives students more than a full week to not do work and forget what they learned. I prefer fall break as is.

I like being able to get my syllabi then spend the weekend getting everything ready for the upcoming semester

I feel that removing Fall Break could impact the success of our students, especially our first year students who are transitioning to the college setting. Additionally, going to an entire week for Thanksgiving while personally beneficial does not serve our students in our opinion. Thanksgiving break falls at time when many students are pushing through the final stretch of the semester. Taking an entire week off could likely slow momentum that students are building as they are rarely effective in completing tasks while on break. I also think we could see some students on the borderline simply not return after a week long break. Some students are not encouraged to persevere by family and friends. An entire week in that environment could be a strong influence on the student's decision.

With all of that said, I also strongly support to move to a Monday start. If done right, we could offer extensive and well rounded orientation for students.

I do not see a problem with the current schedule.

As a faculty member, I STRONGLY believe students need a fall break. By October (essentially the mid-term part of the semester), they have begun to get burned out. My students always seem to return from fall break ready to tackle the 2nd half of the semester. Once we come back from Thanksgiving, the semester is almost over. I DO NOT think removing the days from fall break to extend the Thanksgiving break is as beneficial to students as allowing them the break in October.

I think fall break is important because as a student, that time is vital for me to have a few days of rest. Otherwise, I'm afraid I would get burnt out because of being in school for such a long time. I do not think starting the semester on a Monday would cause any major improvement. I often appreciate having only one day of class before the weekend to get any supplies I might need or get books I may have forgotten.

Thanksgiving comes to late in the semester (semester is almost over), I prefer to have the fall break separate and perhaps extend the fall break.

Keep Thanksgiving break as it is but make the Fall Break a Monday/Tuesday rather than a Thursday/ Friday. It doesn't affect all university faculty but as a voice teacher who sees one student at a time once a week, my Thursday/Friday students automatically lose two lessons in the fall semester that have to be made up. I also have a music convention that I would like to attend in the fall but, because that's another Thursday/Friday obligation, I frequently opt to skip it. I personally like the mini-break in October.

I would be okay with adding 2 days to our semester in order to compensate for a full week Thanksgiving break. I would propose to keep begin the semester on a Monday to compensate for the 2 days lost when extending Thanksgiving Break. Thus keeping Fall Break and a week long Thanksgiving break.

I am in support of moving the start of classes to a Monday. I am also in support of extending Thanksgiving break. I am not in support of giving up Fall Break.

I like that we start classes on a Thursday. It gives an opportunity to experience what the TTh classes will be like and what MWF classes will be like. It also gets the introductions out of the way so that the course can actually begin that Monday. The weekend gives an opportunity to switch schedules if need be. It also provides an opportunity to get books and supplies over the weekend or to handle any last minute issues before the semester starts.

If two days must be added to the thanksgiving break I do not feel it should come from the fall break. I think three days for thanksgiving break is enough but I understand that people have out of state plans. I do not feel that the fall break should be taken away. Although it is short, it gives students a much needed break that they otherwise would not get until the thanksgiving break.

Fall break is good for students mental health. Students need breaks to remain positive and committed to their academic work. Removing Fall break and extending Thanksgiving would negatively impact students mental health.

Honestly, I feel like we should just let school start on Thursday, just as it is. As far as Thanksgiving break and fall break, I would say just leave it all as it is. I don't think that changing around the days of when we start school or have fall/Thanksgiving break would "Positively or Negatively" impacts us. Just leave it as it is. Fall break gives students a break from everything rushing in all at once-school wise plus, some schools are incorporating a break at the same time we have fall break. Families could plan trips or an event as a whole family...

First, I have the UCA students in mind. They may feel rushed to get moved in over a weekend and start classes on a Monday. As of right now, they move in during the weekend and have Monday-Wednesday to get acclimated. Secondly, as a parent to children in the Conway schools, I enjoy being able to take them to school on a Monday around my office hours, without having to report to teaching a class at the same time. I can help them get acclimated for a few days (taking and picking up), before starting my regular schedule. Finally, I believe giving a week out at Thanksgiving, just opens the door, for missing the Thursday and Friday prior to that week off. That's a long lead time to miss curriculum before winding down the semester, especially towards finals. Thank you for your time.

I don't think that moving classes to start on Monday is a good idea. I feel that it will overwhelm freshman by starting their first week going a whole week.

Personally as a first time non-traditional student I have to say attending UCA has been an amazing experience and that having that Fall Break was definitely a great addition to catch up with the college program. Taking away the Fall Break would hinder students that are stressed and need the relief from the stress of college and expectations. The Thanksgiving option I am for extending it as spending the time with family is of great importance and as the years pass I see it becoming more and more difficult. Above all I have nothing but good things to say about this college as a student!

I prefer a week for Thanksgiving because the students make plans to miss the Monday or Tuesday of Thanksgiving holiday. Their absences are inconvenient for their classmates and for me because they expect every concept to be repeated in detail. However, even if Thanksgiving is for a week, I believe that some will still start early.

I think we should keep fall break. It keeps a lot of us sane.

Many students are non-traditional students who enjoy being able to take their child to school on the first day. This may also be true of teachers. Also, the public schools are out for the full week of Thanksgiving.



By changing the schedule to allow a full week for Thanksgiving, you are allowing parents (non-trads and teachers) to be home with their children.

I have two main reasons for my opinions: 1) It has been proven that long breaks from foreign language exposure are very detrimental to students' language learning process. 2) As someone who often shares caretaking responsibilities for a terminally ill out-of-town relative, small breaks such as the fall break help me avoid disruption of my work and/or personal obligations, eliminating some difficult choices I'd otherwise have to make.

Please keep the schedule as is, particularly regarding the fall break and Thanksgiving break. This survey is not clear about to which Monday you would move the start of classes from Thursday - the following Monday or the previous Monday. If the latter, it is not clear whether or not this would mean the semester also ends three days earlier, or whether three additional days of teaching are simply added to faculty schedules without any proportionate salary raises. This last idea would be unacceptable. Since the survey is not clear, that is why I vote "disagree" or "neutral" on those questions.

In addition, moving the start of the semester to the start of classes for the K-12 system (August 15) is absolutely unacceptable. Four-year universities on a semester system around the country typically start during the fourth week of August; this affects how courses, as well as various internal and external professional development activities, are typically scheduled. Moving the start of the fall semester to a date that is up to two full weeks earlier than other universities' typical starting date will cause difficulties to offering summer-term courses, curtail late-summer professional development activities, and interfere with planned vacations.

Leave the schedule as is!!

I think we need fall break because we are run down at that time and it provides a great time for us to just not think about anything so we come back recharged. however i also think that a full week for thanksgiving would be beneficial especially for those of us that have to travel to see our families. I think the two days should be added to the first week of school.

Many state schools now have a week off at Thanksgiving. I would like that in order to visit family before the winter season starts.

Plus, 2 days for a Fall Break really don't help much.

I wouldn't mind going to class for two extra days if Thanksgiving Break was a week and we still got a Fall Break, but I definitely like starting the semester on a Thursday, because it feels like it gives us an insight into what our classes will be like before they truly start, almost.

I believe that classes starting on a Thursday makes it easier for students to ease back into a school routine. I am also against removing fall break. Having this small break allows students to get caught up on school work, spend quality time with family, and/or have time to sharpen the saw. I also disagree with having the full week of Thanksgiving off. This would extend the semester for no reason. I believe that one day to travel home for this holiday is sufficient, and the extra days are not needed.

The two breaks are not long enough to get work done. I am a senior who this will not effect but I would've enjoyed a week to prepare before finals as other universities do during thanksgiving rather than having

two days off mid semester.

Do not change classes to Monday and I like our breaks the way they are it works out better thanks I don't know what changes will happen after the votes from these surveys are counted, but I love getting Fall and Thanksgiving breaks and having class start on a Thursday instead of a Monday. Things can get to be very stressful sometimes, and having a Fall and a Thanksgiving break helps out a lot! It's also nice to not be thrown into a whole week of class right from the beginning that way you can get in the swing of things and still have a couple days to let everything sink in.

Fall break is essential, especially to freshmans, it is the quarter mark. Around this time things begin to get quite stressful with midterms; these two days allow for a time of decompressing. I along with many would love to see Thanksgiving Break become a full week, families especially, but not if it means giving up fall break. If it meant just adding two days to the beginning of the year, though, that'd be fine. It's all about adjustment, giving our brains and emotions a break, and getting to see family-especially for those who are far from home that can really only go home on breaks.

As a recent graduate, these changes have no effect on me (unless I apply for graduate school with UCA). However, myself and many, MANY, people I know have always complained about Thanksgiving Break. Every single person I have had this discussion with in the past has agreed with me and shared the same belief: UCA should eliminate the two day Fall Break and have classes those days instead, thus allowing UCA to eliminate the two days of classes before Thanksgiving Break and have a full week off for Thanksgiving instead. By taking the two days from Fall Break and applying them to Thanksgiving Break instead, UCA doesn't have to worry about where to adjust the calendar to compensate for the aforementioned changes. I know that for the four years that I was a student at UCA, I ALWAYS wanted to have a full break off for Thanksgiving and thought that Fall Break was pointless.

As for starting classes on a Monday as opposed Thursday, I am mostly indifferent. I personally enjoyed starting classes on a Thursday. Moving into the dorms on the weekend is a big transition period; I appreciated having the following Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday to adjust to my new living arrangements as well as familiarize myself with the campus. I liked having all of my classes once that week, at the end of the week, followed by the weekend to digest everything I experienced my first week of classes. However, should UCA determine that they could better adjust incoming students to being in college by starting classes on Monday instead of Thursday, then I trust that UCA knows what is best.

Starting classes on Thursday gives teachers and students a chance to evaluate the class as to 1) whether it is the class the student thought it was, 2) gives teachers a chance to advise students who are unsure about the class 3) starting on a day all the other schools do not start will alleviate traffic issues 4) that entire week can be used for parents' and new students to tour campus, etc. No strong opinion about deleting Fall break. It does seem to mess up the continuity a bit. Having a full week at Thanksgiving would be good for those who have to travel home in that they would have more time with their families and more time to travel back and forth.

Quite a few classes are "canceled" for Thanksgiving. Some students only have a Tuesday course that week. Having them meet for an extra class when they could be driving safely home on Friday or Saturday would be an improvement. I worry about students setting land speed records to get home after class on Tuesdays

that week.

I don't think that changing the first day of classes, for the fall semester, would have a major impact. I showed up on the Monday before classes started, thinking that I was going to class, because the schedule given to me by the guidance center said that all of the classes started on a Thursday....even my Monday Wednesday Friday classes. So I was confused by that, but I also hadn't learned how to use my student email yet. The only thing that I think may be beneficial about starting classes on a Thursday is that it gives you time to think (over the weekend) and mentally prepare for the semester that you have to come, instead of just jumping into lessons in your first week.

Being a local student I have no problem with the set up of the fall/ thanksgiving breaks. I do like having a fall break, and think that it is somewhat needed. I also think that students who do not live near by are given the short end of the stick, because the day before this (what is supposed to be) very happy holiday, is the only day that they have to travel, and is also one of the biggest travel days of the year. If there were any travel complications it could possibly prevent them from spending the holiday with their family. If the fall semester started two days earlier then I believe that would be better. Students greatly appreciate fall break. Being a student from out-of-state, a whole week at Thanksgiving would be beneficial in terms of finances for flying, scheduling with classes, and etc. It would allow for more students to go home and spend time with their family.

I like fall break and I would like a full week for thanksgiving break so the days to be added would be fine if it's starting school on Monday instead of Thursday

I think that college is constantly being made easier and easier until finally it will be worthless.

It is practically worthless now. All you worry about are gender studies and issues. Don't you realize that if everyone gets in and everyone passes, no one can better themselves?

Can't we just be happy without change. I'm used to a schedule. It's nice for it to stay the same.

The first day being on a Thursday makes transitioning from breaks back to classes easier

I believe this is a great idea but then when would semester end? Would this affect that? I enjoy getting out earlier than most people.

Adding or eliminating two days during semester is not terribly significant; it is the TIMING of those two days that is. The two days of fall break help give a short pause in the middle of the fall semester, a chance to catch your breath, catch up on homework, and sleep in for a change. Having two extra days during Thanksgiving Break would give everyone, students and faculty, a chance to spend more time with family, which is good all around.

In short, fall break is a necessary pause but may benefit being moved to a week earlier. Thanksgiving break should be a full week, for both students and faculty. If you move the semester start from Thursday backwards to Monday, that could give you the extra days?

Students look forward to fall break; we need it. The system works as it is, don't change anything.

change the start of classes to Monday and keep fall break and thanksgiving break the same.

I think extending Thanksgiving Break would be an improvement for those who live on campus.

They can the opportunity to spend more time with their family during the season.

I actually enjoy starting classes on Thursdays. It allows me to visit each class, obtain a syllabus, then spend the weekend evaluating a game plan on how to get organized for the upcoming year. It also allows me to evaluate any changes that might need to be made before the actual week begins.

As for fall break, I look forward to it each year. It falls right around the time when classes get quite hectic (scheduling wise) and it is nice to have designated days where I can relax and collect myself to pull through the last part of the semester.

I know I would prefer to keep the schedule the way it is, but I am also a person who likes to adhere to set schedules; I'm not one for sudden change - especially if what I'm doing works.

At first I had trouble remembering that classes started on a thursday, however as I learned to plan better and prepare better, this was not the case, it was more of schedule conflicts with the elementary schools where my own children attended.

Also, the fall break is nice for on campus and off campus classes, as well as staff down time. It is needed in its place and time. For the thanksgiving break, as of right now the UCA Thanksgiving schedule matches the schools thanksgiving break with my own kids so it is nice!!

This is not related to the status of Thanksgiving break or beginning of semester, but another issue that arises in my head is how we only get one day to prepare for finals. Two days would be better when most students have 15 hours or more one day can create enormous stress for us all.

When the idea of adding a fall break was first discussed, I expressed my opinion to the Faculty Senate that with Labor Day, a two-day fall break, and a three-day Thanksgiving break, we were putting first-year students at risk of non-attendance. The more often they go home for breaks, the more likely they are not to return for a variety of reasons. The frequent breaks also make it difficult to schedule deadlines for papers and dates for tests. A week for Thanksgiving would give students time to be with their families AND study for final exams, especially if we stayed on message about it as a time to relax and catch up with work

Frankly, I do not see the point in changing any of the three things recommended.

The first day of class being a Thursday gives students those three days beforehand to acclimate to being away from home. Changing the first day would either eliminate those three days or make it a week. We need those three days, but a whole week is too much. By day three, people are starting to get bored even if there are events happening on campus. Those days are important for incoming freshmen in particular. There is nothing wrong with starting on a Thursday and it doesn't need to be changed. We do not need to be on the same schedule as the public school system.

Eliminating Fall Break is just plain ridiculous. Fall Break is a much needed break. In the Spring semester, there are hardly any breaks and it gets TOUGH. People start to get burned out because there is nothing to break up the routine. The last thing we need is for them to get burned out in the fall semester as well, especially for the freshmen. Fall Break allows us all to take a much needed vacation away from classes and wind down from the beginning of the semester, which is always such a rush.

Adding those two days off to Thanksgiving Break is also ridiculous. Thanksgiving, while still a holiday, is not Christmas. We simply do not need a whole break. Three days is definitely enough. Especially so close to finals! When we come back from Thanksgiving break, we only have one week of classes left before finals. If we have a whole break, I can guarantee you, people will put off studying the ENTIRE week and will be even more unprepared for the last week of class. It's just pointless, in my opinion. The way the semester is laid out WORKS. It doesn't need to be changed. It would only lead to confusion and stress in the long run.

Thanksgiving is already at an inconvenient time (but we can't move it). Fall break is SOOOOO important for getting a break in the middle of the semester. Plus, no one needs that much family time.

Having fall break and a short Thanksgiving break is very important for the fall semester. Fall semester is usually crazy and it is Freshman's first time at college on their own. Freshman, as well as the rest of the student body, get homesick and miss their families from time to time and having a few shorter breaks is great so that they have some time to see their families a few times a semester without stressing about completing their academic responsibilities. Spring semester does not have as many breaks and is more strenuous when trying to plan to go visit friends and family from home, that is why many college students value the several shorter breaks in the fall. Thank you and I hope you consider the points I have addressed.

To add to the above, the two Summer Sessions should be combined into one, it is much to difficult to do any class in thirty days....going to sixty days (or longer) for a class is more feasible. Also, only do the student tours/orientations when classes are NOT in session, these groups get entirely to loud in the hallways causing disruptions for both Instructor and student(s).....especially during class test time.

Most would enjoy a 9 day Thanksgiving break versus 2 split week breaks. Let's do it!!!!

I think leaving the start date on Thursday is important because it gives students a chance to get familiar with the teacher and the syllabus before actually starting class the next week. Eliminating fall break would hurt student moral because we look forward to it every year. However, if it was eliminated and thanksgiving week was made a full week of break, I think the students would enjoy that. Students already feel like this two day week is useless anyways.

I like the semester being broken up by the more frequent breaks. Thanksgiving break at UCA tends to mirror that of the public schools. I see no reason to change it. Furthermore, I believe it would make it even harder to get students motivated for one more week of school and exams than it already is at present. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Don't eliminate Fall Break. Make Thanksgiving Break a week long instead of three days long.

I think we need to keep fall break even if that means not getting a full week for thanksgiving because it's in the middle of the semester & 8 feel like student need a break more than an extra two days at

thanksgiving which is at the end of the year.

I think Fall Break is a nice breathe of air during the semester and should not be eliminated.

As a student, having Fall Break and Thanksgiving Break split the semester up nicely. In my opinion, taking Fall Break away would result in a lengthy wait for a break from classes and in doing so, would affect my coursework negatively.

As a member of the Staff on this campus, I feel that it would not affect me much.

Please just start the first semester two days early, keep fall break the same, and add two days to Thanksgiving so it'll be a week long.

I graduate in may so i could care less honestly. But its stupid to only get out three days for thanksgiving. And most of the jerk professors ruin fallbreak with massive amounts of homework anyway.

Many of my students don't attend classes at all during those weeks in which Wednesday and Friday classes are part of a break.

Please do NOT eliminate fall break. It is very necessary for students and faculty for so many reasons. Please do NOT start classes before or on the day that CPS starts. Those of us who have kids need those few days to get our own classes ready and settle the kids into a routine. Starting at the same time or before would be extremely stressful.

I like the schedule the way it is.

Fall break is a great time for not only students to rest (or in often cases catch up) but also for faculty.

I can't envision a schedule where both students and faculty wouldn't become exhausted and productivity would decrease. Rest is an important part of the learning and growing process. I am sure analysis of other campuses which lack the rest period have been done, and if the data suggest there is not difference without an additional semester break then perhaps it won't matter.

I honestly couldn't care less if the school year started off on a Monday rather than a Thursday, but I would like for Thanksgiving break to be extended to a full week. That being said, it only makes sense to then start the year on a Monday; while also taking away the "fall break" to keep all the classes closer to an equal number.

I think fall break is important to many students, so could there be a way to make Thanksgiving break a full week from the extra days that result from starting semesters on a Monday?

I think that the current schedule is fine, and no changes need to be made.

A full week off for Thanksgiving rather than an earlier fall break would benefit me and my family, even if an additional two days would be added to the fall semester elsewhere.

In the department of music, we have many performing groups and classes that have to be set after auditions or assessment tests. By having the orientation days and the Thursday start, we are able to get all of these evaluations made and get the class sections set before the last day to add a class. I also feel that for freshmen, these two days help them get acclimated to their course schedule and gives them the time to

adjust their schedule if needed.

College is exhausting. Students need fall break. Plus, a week off for Thanksgiving seems too much.

I feel that the Fall Break helps break up the semester and gives students something to look forward to in the middle of the semester. Thanksgiving break is three days + a weekend and then we come back for two weeks to finish up the semester and then good to go for Christmas break. I think the fall break should remain.

I don't mind a two day week and a five day break. I'd prefer to have the two breaks in the semester as time to get away from classes at two different times in the semester rather than only one. It breaks up the semester in a nice way.

It is a long time between Labor Day and Thanksgiving Week.

If extending Thanksgiving Break means getting rid of Fall Break, it isn't worth it. Those two breaks are greatly appreciated, as they provide a short week at two separate times and gives students time to catch up in classes they may be behind in. Because they're spread out, students take them more seriously (at least I do from a personal perspective). If you just gave students one long Thanksgiving Break, I believe students would just wait until the last minute to get anything done. As for the first day of classes being moved to Monday, I don't believe that they should. Classes starting on Thursday is genius (to me) because it's like allowing students to dip their toe into their classes and give them a shot before getting the weekend to mentally prepare themselves. But at least they've had that first impression to give them an idea of what to expect. Also, teachers may or may not actually need the book scheduled for the class, so students can go those first days, figure out if they need the book for the class, and then get them that weekend instead of buying everything right at the beginning only to find out they don't need it later. Thus, leaving the first day of class on Thursday is the best decision.

I think adding a full week to thanksgiving by starting classes on monday rather than thursday would be beneficial to me in the physical therapy program.

I would like it more if Thanksgiving break were a week and we still had fall break but we started two days earlier (or even starting on a Monday) in the semester.

Beginning classes on a Thursday allow for welcome week activities that help freshmen students adjust to the college life. Fall break is a necessary mental rest that helps with the preparation of mid terms. Having a full week for thanks giving will provide a break between classes that's is too long. Especially since final follows shortly after. Being out of class that long before finals will interrupt the learning process.

Can we keep the Thursday start, fall break, and extend Thanksgiving to a full week and add two days to the end of the semester for the extension of Thanksgiving? Faculty doesn't get "personal days" which makes it hard to see sick family members if you live out of the state. Also, can we have a Friday commencement ceremony?

I'm a freshman and I loved starting on a Thursday because I go to all of my classes then I get a break. I'm nervous and overwhelmed already and going a full week for my first time at college would have sucked a lot. Also, I love fall break. It is a perfect time that lets you know you need to get your stuff together. I would much rather have fall break than a full week at thanksgiving

I need fall break, don't take it away

Several other schools reduce fall break to a 3 day weekend and give a full week off for thanksgiving. I think adding this day at the end of the semester would allow for both the retention of a fall break as well as a full week for thanksgiving.

Having to wait until the very end of the semester for a break would be absolutely awful and exhausting. Even though the Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week are difficult, I think we really need that small break halfway through the semester.

Fall Break is essential to the average academically successful student at UCA. It allows for a much needed academic break. I think that having Wednesday, Thursday and Friday off for Thanksgiving is enough time to celebrate the holiday with loved ones.

Starting classes on a Thursday is very beneficial to the students at UCA and I would like to see it stay like that. Starting the week on Thursday gives parents and those who are educators like me time to adjust before having to start school ourselves.

Thanksgiving falls too close to the end of the semester. Having a full week off and then return for only one week (before finals) makes for poor pedagogy in my opinion.

Personally, I feel like we should just keep things the way they are and not change.

Fall break is a time for students to recollect and take a little break from the stress of school. Thanksgiving is a busy time for most people going family to family not really having a break. Fall break is where the students can just relax and unwind whether it's going on a vacation, sleeping, going to visit family whatever it may be it is a positive thing to have

Fall break really does help students catch up on school work, because Fall break is close to a really busy time in the school year. School starting a Thursday really allows us to know if the classes we have chosen are a good fit. Sometimes the professor can be really hard to understand and then I may want to adjust my schedule to take another professor.

Thursday instead of Monday.. keep fall break... and thanksgiving break should be extended to a full week anyway

Fall Break in October helps! It's a nice break during a very stressful time! I don't think you should get rid of Fall Break!

I think having a fall break in between is better than having a longer Thanksgiving break. Students and faculty need a break in the middle of the semester to adjust pace.



While a week long Thanksgiving break would be nice, Fall Break is necessary in my opinion. It's a long stretch between the beginning of the year and Thanksgiving break and I need those few days of Fall Break for my sanity. It is not necessary to make Thanksgiving break a week long. We are not part of the Conway school system, so our breaks do not have to match up.

I prefer starting class on Thursday rather than Monday. This gives the teachers one class period to get the syllabus and any classroom "housecleaning" out of the way. This also gives students the weekend to get any supplies needed or adjust their schedule.

Speaking for myself I think the week long vacation at Thanksgiving would be excessive and break up the continuity for educators and students.

I like starting classes on Thursday. That way I can go to my Thursday and Friday classes once and then spend the weekend going out and buying anything I need for those classes. If I started on Monday, I could get very behind if it takes a couple nights to go buy the right supplies.

Make thanksgiving break a week long & don't eliminate fall break. Start classes on Monsay instead of Thursday. I am in favor of a Monday start for semesters. All classes will begin the same week in that fashion, even single meeting day graduate classes.

Losing the Fall break in favor of an entire week off for Thanksgiving is a positive change. It would parallel Spring break in that way and give more time for travel. Many students seem to not attend the 2 days of classes in Thanksgiving week anyhow. It would eliminate the incentive to do that and not waste valuable instruction time.

I would like to see the fall and spring semesters start one week later, and end one week later. As it stands now, the semesters are essentially over following Thanksgiving and Spring Break.

I like having fall break to do homework and relax. I like starting on a Thursday because I have the weekend to get supplies for my classes

If you move the start day from a Thursday to a Monday, why can't that be the extra couple days needed for thanksgiving break to be a full week? Fall break is way too nice to take away, please.

As an adult student getting my Masters Degree, I think extending the Thanksgiving break to a full week will benefit all students so they can spend the holiday time with family and friends instead of dealing with class work and deadlines.

I like the learning system of uca.

I suggest starting on the Monday but still keep fall break and use the extra days to make thanksgiving a full week I enjoy fall break & Thanksgiving break and do not think that they need to be changed as of right now.

Since Thanksgiving break is so close to the end of the semester, I do not see the need to make it a full week. I would much rather have the fall break. Everyone is ready for a break then.

Starting on a Thursday can be difficult at times but it is nice to be able to get settled in to the campus environment before starting classes. Also, the first day of classes usually only cover the syllabi. It makes the first couple days of the year start easy and allows students to be more social with their friends that they have not seen all summer.

Fall break is a small relief in the semester. It gives students a break from the academic world and allows them more time to relax. Without this break, students begin to drag from the constant homework and tests in classes. Also, the 4 day weekend allows students who live farther away the chance to go home and see their family.

Thanksgiving break would be great as a full week but, it is not worth it to take the days from fall break. Other schools have classes on Monday and Tuesday and I do not see an issue with keeping it this way. Although, it would make it nice for students that do have farther to travel. It gives them more time with the family. The other point I have, is that it isn't too far from finals. There are only 4 days left after the break and then a week of finals. With the end so close, it doesn't need to be extended.

I need Fall Break for a mental break and an extended Thanksgiving break would negatively impact preparations for finals.

I love classes starting on a Thursday because this means I only have to go through two days of classes before getting a weekend. This helps me smoothly transition back into the student mindset and I have always appreciated that.

I also think eliminating fall break is a terrible idea. A lot of students use that opportunity to travel with friends which is much more expensive and difficult if they were to attempt it during Thanksgiving week when traveling prices are much higher and they have family celebrations to now consider.

Please don't change any of that I like starting school on Thursday to get into the swing of things instead of Monday. We also really like our breaks separate so we can have things to look forward to. Keep everything the same please

I think all of these issues are not nearly as important as what could be being discussed. Discuss parking issues, not something that doesn't bother anyone really.

I am a nontraditional student and the holidays my daughter is out doesn't match my school days which sometimes makes it hard for us to plan vacation, get babysitter, etc. It would be an improvement overall. I believe started on a Monday instead of a Thursday may work fine for upper class-men, but I think the current Thursday start time with a three day Welcome Week is very beneficial for incoming freshman and should remain the way it is. I really like the fall schedule as it is!

Fall Break is wonderful and as a freshman I do not think I could have made it through the semester without Fall Break. I needed the two extra days to recuperate and re-energize before going back to classes. In my opinion Thanksgiving break does not need to be a full week long. I much prefer having only Monday and Tuesday classes to eliminating Fall Break to extend Thanksgiving. Thursday works well for starting the semester, because it meant that I had time to read all the chapters before the first day of class.

Thanks for sending out this survey to get opinions.

I could care less when high schools or elementary schools are in and/or out of session. I only disagree with a full week for the Thanksgiving Break because it is just a week prior to the end of classes.

How about one day for Thanksgiving and give us a full week off for Fall Break. That would more closely mirror Spring Break.

Having a break in the middle of the semester is a blessing. It provides much needed rest.

I have never heard anyone complain about the way things are right now. I wouldn't change anything

Thanksgiving is often the week before end of classes. Seems a bit crazy to make a week-long holiday then--disruptive to projects, etc--although students often don't show up Mon/Tues anyway but can deal with that grade-wise. I do really not want to lose fall break but not a big deal; could actually make fall break longer (MTW) and change Thanksgiving to Thurs/Fri. I really only feel strongly we should not align anything with public school--we are not on quarters.

To give a better explanation about my choices in the above questions, I believe starting classes at the beginning of the first week is very beneficial to students like me that take upper level courses that hit the ground running on the first day. Typically, my classes complete 1 chapter in a week so having only two days before the weekend means I only experience part of the chapter, forget a portion of it due to weekend activities, and resume learning it somewhere in the middle of the chapter. Also, going a whole week at the start of the semester should kickstart my academic performance sooner than starting with only two days before a break. Honestly, the two beginning days are typically viewed as "blow off" days because there's not much material that can be covered in two days and as such, only a few students take them seriously.

As for getting rid of Fall break and or adding those days to make Thanksgiving break an entire week, I do not support this because taking an entire week off from school just causes students to get lazy and less focused on their coursework whereas taking a day or two here and there is less likely to cause a student to be affected like this.

I enjoy the two separate breaks during the most stressful part of the semester.

I enjoy having fall break, and thanksgiving break. If the reason thanksgiving is being brought up to be extended to a week is because people skip class those other two days, extending thanksgiving will not fix that in my opinion.

I am a parent and the first day of school for my children is hectic and making sure they get picked up or get off the bus correctly is a big deal. This semester my oldest child started a new school and started riding the bus. I had to be there to help her through this milestone. Today my child is at home on break while I have class from 9am to 9pm. It would be beneficial to be home with her. I have noticed several students had to bring their children to school with them today. Although a full week for thanksgiving would be nice for me, fall break is important. Midterms are very stressful and myself and fellow students were under pressure. Students need this break to unwind (although most teachers use it to pile on extra projects increasing stress). Also with the time change and it getting dark earlier

I think student depression would increase and be very negative without a fall break.

- Eliminating fall break is not the best idea. Perhaps adding days somewhere else.
- The first day of classes being on a Thursday is very good for adjusting. Students (particularly freshman)
- can start without getting overwhelmed or stressed as they would with a full week of classes to start off. It
- also gives the students a quick and needed weekend to spend adjusting, preparing, and getting to know
- their new peers.

#### KEEP FALL BREAK

I don't understand why UCA is trying to schedule college around a local elementary school. Having two partial weeks spread apart in the semester (fall break and thanksgiving) makes workloads feel more manageable due to having a little rest to catch up, rather than a full week off almost at the end of the semester and nothing in the middle. Additionally, fall break allows for more opportunity to enjoy the time off since temperatures are much more mild, whereas during Thanksgiving it is significantly colder. I strongly oppose a change to the current fall break/Thanksgiving break structure in UCA's schedule.

I don't see any problem with the way things are now. In my opinion it is just best to keep fall break and Thanksgiving break the way it is. Maybe before you worry about what days we're in class, you should worry about what a horrible job the professors do of advising students. Maybe work on that first.

I would rather add two class days at the beginning or the end of the semester. Fall break is a nice way to help new students be able to return home for a short break. This helps those who feel overwhelmed and homesick. Thanksgiving break would be nice to have the whole week because the Monday and Tuesday classes that we have are not very beneficial, but if it stays as it is, I am not complaining either. The schedule has worked for many years and it follows decently close with the public school systems.

Fall break is tremendously helpful to my students. I find that a break somewhere in the middle of the semester helps them recover some energy needed to complete the semester successfully.

A full week for Thanksgiving wouldn't necessarily be bad if we had more time in class after Thanksgiving break. But a full week off before the last week of classes typically hurts the performance of struggling freshmen in my classes. I've experienced this at a previous university. The more successful, hardworking students don't really get a break because they're working during break to prepare for the final assignments due the last week of classes and during finals, while struggling students tend to lose focus. After a full week of not attending to schoolwork, they have to scramble in the last few days of the semester to get everything done, and they

usually aren't particularly effective at doing that. If they do have momentum toward achieving the goals of the course prior to a week-long break at Thanksgiving, they tend to lose that focus and often don't fully get it back before the semester ends.

Delaying our start time in January would be good. So, if moving to Mondays would mean that we would start later in January that would be a good thing--not because it's a Monday but because it's later allowing more prep time for classes without impinging on holiday time with families.

Don't touch my mother lovin' fallbreak

These questions were confusingly worded: but, I think it's a good idea to make Thanksgiving Break a full week, and NOT to start classes on a Monday. I very much appreciate having syllabus days on the first Thursday and Friday, and having the weekend to collect and organize materials, textbooks, and plan out the semester.

I do not wish to change my schedule to mimic high school, elementary, and middle schools here. I like Fall Break because it gives me time to catch up on homework and it allows me to take a break from the daily bustle of classes.

I believe Thanksgiving break should be the entire week of Thanksgiving to allow students time to travel & spend quality time with their families. I'm not sure if I would rather have 2 days added to the semester or take these days from fall break. Probably add to the semester, but I am almost neutral regarding where the 2 days come from.

I believe starting on a Thursday is more beneficial to students than a Monday start date. This is due to the weekend that allows for you to organize your planner and prepare for a full week. Starting class on a Thursday is a nice easy segway from break to classes. I feel that having a couple classes then a weekend before a normal week of classes is a good transition to help students get back into "student mode" following vacation.

As a staff member, we already have to work the days of Fall Break as well as the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, so those switches wouldn't really do anything for us. Same thing with starting classes on Mondays...we have to be here whether it's Thursday or Monday. However, I will say it's just never made much sense to start on Thursday though. Just my opinion.

I value the mid-semester rest that fall break provides over having a full week at the end of the semester.

I believe that Fall Break is a much needed break for us as students. Thanksgiving break being 3 days is plenty, plus the weekend, and it's fine as is. If we take out Fall Break and have a full week for Thanksgiving, I believe students will come back having forgotten all the information needed for finals and will be less focused than if we had just the 3 day off like we do now plus the weekend. It's a good suggestion, but losing Fall Break seems like a loss of motivation- we need that break precisely where it is as a recovery time.

I am a senior at UCA, and I personally like the idea of starting classes on a Thursday. I believe that it gives students a change to acclimate to their environment (especially for freshman) and adjust to their schedules. The weekend gives everyone a short break after classes start and to fully prepare for the semester after syllabus day.

I believe UCA should eliminate fall break and add it to Thanksgiving break while getting a whole week at Thanksgiving off. The week of fall break I normally skip the day or two before break anyways. The same thing happens with Thanksgiving break. I usually always skip classes the week of Thanksgiving break to drive home and spend that time with my family.  
I believe the uca faculty and students need Fall Break!

Unless the administration is willing to compensate faculty for the additional prep time required when faculty are off contract and classes start Aug. 15th, it an unfeasible plan. Additionally, adding days to the semester is not a desirable plan either. Many faculty have young school age children and would appreciate that the administration not move the start date of classes to the first day that school starts. We enjoy having time to take our children to their first day of classes. When a faculty member is required to be teaching at that time, it becomes impossible to see our kids off to their first day of school. This plan has been floated around by administration before and was unsuccessful. It appears that this type of plan is rearing its ugly head again at the expense of no compensation in terms of time with our children or monetary gain. Perhaps the administration could provide more faculty support. Additionally, I have concerns that this plan is another way of milking our on campus freshmen for more money for dining and housing under the disguise of Welcome Week festivities. If this is the case, shame on the administration for this type of behavior.

Having classes start on a Thursday gives a good introduction to how to classes will be arranged. This provides the students with time to think about how to transition into new classes over the weekend.

Please don't take Fall Break away! I love our fall break it gives us a break at the right time. It's not that big of a deal that classes start on a Thursday. I don't think it will really will be beneficial for the freshman. There's already a lot that goes on during Welcome Week!

If anything, make Thanksgiving break a full week and tack on the extra days to the end of the semester. We only have 2 weeks of classes after Thanksgiving break (not including Finals week) so it's not going to hurt us to have a couple extra days in December.

Start on Third Monday in August, not Fourth or the Thursday. This adds three days to the calendar year. Therefore, Fall Break and the full Thanksgiving week are now available AND teachers will have an extra day of class.

This is my first year at UCA and I'm a Junior in College. It was very helpful to have the first classes on Thursday and Friday, then have the weekend to get remainder school supplies

I would rather have three days off for fall break and two days off for Thanksgiving break in order to spread out the breaks more because we only come back for two weeks after Thanksgiving break and

then we have a month off.

Fall break is important because it allows people to re-energize and gear up for the rest of the semester. A full week for Thanksgiving would be nice, but it may not be good for motivation. A lot of students wouldn't care very much for the last few days of class after having such a long break.

I think the break mid semester is very important. Why do we need a whole weeks break just days before Christmas break?

Do not change it.

I see no immediate problems with moving the start date to Monday. While having classes on the Thursday and Friday allows for a better welcome week experience throughout the week and allows students to become acclimated to their classes more easily, it can also hinder classes that are only once a week that happen to fall on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday. This idea has benefits (Allowing night classes or once a week classes to also meet for the first time on the first week of school) however it also hinders the overall campus community experience (Welcome week will be harder for students to experience, and the first weekend is a very critical time for students to really get to know one another and build relationships before classes "begin" the following week. Most classes offer orientation during that Thursday and Friday, and as a freshman, I very much appreciated the extra time to get used to the college experience before going directly into a full week of classes). I do however have a strong opinion about removing fall break in favor of having a longer thanksgiving holiday. I know that many of my out of state friends did not go home during the thanksgiving break specifically because they 1. Went home during the fall break, and 2. Were instead preparing to go home for Christmas. By removing fall break you are 1. Forcing students to go home the entire week of Thanksgiving and then turn around and come back to school for 2 weeks before going right back home (Without the option to go home on fall break, many students may opt to go back for thanksgiving, as the time to travel will be unavailable throughout the rest of the semester, and by this time homesickness will become a very real issue). 2. Removing a vital resting period at the very middle of fall semester that many students use to take a mental break and remove themselves from the world of school so that they are prepared to push for the final months of the semester (Without fall semester my first year, there is a very real possibility that I would not have come back to finish school, and if students have the same mindset that I did my first year it will mean higher dropping rates for the University as a whole during the fall semester). 3. Removing a period of time in which students have the option to study for midterms (After my first year, I began using fall break as a time to help me prepare for my midterms which are always the week after fall break). 4. Removing the potential for students to group together and go on a fall trip (Many students may instead take spontaneous trips during fall break as it is not enough time to go home, but long enough for them to experience a world all their own. Its a growing experience to take a trip on your own or with friends, and having this small time provided allows students the opportunity to gain this experience. These are the trips that allow students to determine who they are as individuals, and I believe taking this time away from them will impact the students negatively). and 5. Removing a midterm break that is very similar to spring break, and replacing it with a more stressful period during the holidays (Holidays can often be stressful enough. Providing students more time during thanksgiving will allow them to spend more time with family during the holidays, but it will also

remove them from classes for a longer period of time that is even closer to finals week. By removing fall break and providing a longer thanksgiving break, you will give students more of an intensive to relax during the final week of regular classes and during their finals, which will ultimately lower test scores on final class tests during the final week of regular classes, and on finals themselves. Not to mention, not all family gatherings are particularly pleasant. By giving students more of a thanksgiving week, you are forcing them, by way of parents pressuring students to return home for this extended break, to return home and experience the stress of being around home and family. This stress is not something that the student has been around during much of the semester if they do not live at home, and I do not believe that every student will benefit from this. While my own family experiences are always pleasant, and would personally like more time to spend with my family, I know this is not the case for many of our students on campus, including many of my personal friends who find an escape/release from being away from home while at school. Taking this away from them will cause unnecessary stress right before the final push of the semester). It is my opinion that removing fall break would negatively affect the students of UCA, and that it should not be done, even if it will allow students more time and more of an opportunity to visit with family during the holidays. As a student of the University myself, I know that the removal of fall break during my time at UCA would have impacted me negatively, and I do not wish to see this happen to other students as well. Furthermore, I also believe that moving the start of classes to allow for more of a thanksgiving holiday will disrupt the current welcome week schedule, and will provide unforeseen dilemmas during the beginning weeks of class. I personally appreciated the two day week at the beginning of each semester, as it allowed me to become re-acclimated to campus life and to college as a whole. It is my personal belief that you should not remove fall break, and should not change the beginning of the school semester in favor of a longer thanksgiving break, as it will negatively affect the community aspect of our campus living, and will hurt UCA in the long run. One of my favorite things about going to UCA is the campus community, and I do not wish to see this aspect of our campus diminished by removing time for students to find who they are and spend time investing in one another. I believe that for many (myself included), this time is a vital part of their college experience, and if lost, they will be losing out on a major portion of that college experience.

There is no reason to extend thanksgiving. We only have a week of school after the holiday. Let us finish the semester students are useless after breaks and they need to keep motivated to finish the semester.

Some clarification on if the starting date would be the previous or following Monday from the usual Thursday would have been helpful in receiving accurate feedback.

Maybe we could keep fall break AND a week of thanksgiving ðŸ˜~ :)

I feel as if Fall Break is extremely helpful and needed in the semester. It gives us as students a little break from the hustle and bustle of school and I think that it provides sort of a "pause" button for us and I do not suggest that it be removed, even if thanksgiving break would be longer.

I would rather have fall break!!!



The first two days of class ( Thursday and Friday) typically are a syllabus day, and nothing is taught or at least very little. This leaves time for people to find their classes, etc. Then the following week, when class starts on a Monday, students can be prepared for a regular weeks' schedule.

Also there's no need to have two short breaks so close (Halloween and thanksgiving) Better to have a week break at once for Thanksgiving.( Also allows time to study at home before finals.  
I think we should continue to start classes on a Thursday, to not jump the gun and over stress the students. I think the breaks are fine :)

I think it would be a smart idea to extend the thanksgiving break..give people more time to spend with there families especially this time of year...this is coming from some one who has battled depression since the age of 19...its better now...and who's parent is no longer here so to me spending as much time with my 15 month old son and the rest of my family is very important to me during this time of year.

I am ok with what we have , we don't need to change it.

Don't get rid of fall break!

The current schedule seems to work very well with my life style.

I am a student staff member. I work for housing and residence life as an RA. Mon-Wed before classes start are crucial to getting students acclimated to campus life, and how things work. I think it is also important to give students a break after the first days of class. The weekend following the first two days of classes really benefits students because they have a chance to either go back home to get things they need for classes, or even those relaxation or prep days they need to prepare for the rest of the semester after the mass amount of information given on syllabus days. Also,getting rid of Fall break would negatively impact many students. It is around that point in the semester that classes are getting so busy that students need those two days as mental health days. Extending thanksgiving break, although it would be nice, is not necessary since winter break follows shortly after thanksgiving break.

I spend part of the week traveling and settling in. Having a full week the first week after coming back from break is a lot to handle.

If there was a way to keep the schedule the way it is in addition to having a full week for thanksgiving would be great. If needed, I'd rather just start school earlier to keep fall break and get a full week for thanksgiving.